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Palestinian Affairs

PLO Statement on 'Serious Situation' in Gaza

JN2106183689 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Statement issued by the PLO Executive Committee "on the serious situation in Gaza"; date not given]

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee learned about the increasingly serious situation in Gaza during two consecutive meetings held on 18 and 19 June to discuss ways to support the intifadah [uprising] and the national steadfastness in confronting Shamir's new plan to uproot the intifadah.

We announce to the entire world that 750,000 Palestinians in Gaza are now being exposed—in an unprecedented manner—to an overall offensive by the Israeli occupation authorities and the armed settlers in line with Shamir's new plan. The new plan is based on using poisonous gases and shooting, as well as on other methods of repression and terrorism to confront the intifadah in order to control our steadfast people.

The Israeli occupation forces imposed a curfew throughout the Gaza Strip most of last month. They turned Gaza into a closed military area for more than 16 days, during which Palestinian citizens were not allowed to leave their houses for 24 hour time periods. Moreover, this was in conjunction with an overall offensive carried out by the Israeli forces against Gaza districts and camps which resulted in the deaths of many martyrs and in many wounded. It was impossible to evacuate the wounded to hospitals because of the comprehensive siege imposed by the occupation forces. During the past month, 34 martyrs and more than 2,600 wounded fell in Jabaliya, the Rafah camp, al-Shabura, al-Nusayrat, Bayt Lahya, and Khan Yunus. All of them were exposed to bullets and poisonous gases fired by the occupation forces inside houses in the districts. The victims received no assistance or treatment. As a result of this, women suffered abortions and children suffocated.

'Amram Mitzna', commander of the central area, disclosed the plan of the Shamir government when he tendered his resignation so that his military and human honor will not be stained with the blood of these hellish plans. Shamir yesterday announced the launching of this terrorist hellish plan against our people throughout the occupied territory.

The PLO draws the attention of the world to the sufferings of our children, women, men, and old men at this difficult time. The siege continues; the offensives continu day and night; hundreds of wounded are falling; thousands of people are being arrested; food and medical supplies are not available; and the occupation forces are firing their bullets and poisonous gases at the residential areas to inflict the largest human and material losses on our kinfolk and homeland.

The entire world is called on to do something to stop this hideous criminal massacre. Thousands of children in Jabalya, al-Nusayrat, al-Shat', al-Burayj, the southern and central camps, Gaza, Khan Yunus, and Rafah are faced with siege, starvation, and lack of medical treatment. This is in addition to the terrorism and military offensives carried out by the army and herds of settlers.

The entire world should punish this crime. The United States and the Western European countries are called on—before anybody else—to raise their voice and demand the removal of the Israeli occupation's bayonets, rifles, bullets, and poisoned gases away from our children, women, and masses. These people have the right to protection, freedom, and independence.

As the PLO Executive Committee announces to the entire world that the intifadah will continue until the establishment of the independent Palestinian states, it calls on the UN Security Council and the United Nations to shoulder their responsibilities provided by the international laws to protect the Palestinian people from the new Nazis who possess all means of killing and destruction.

The UN Security Council is called upon at this crucial time to shoulder its international responsibilities to protect the Palestinians who are suffering in the land of peace and faith.

We appeal to all friends, brothers, and free men in the world to stand on the side of our people and masses in confronting this racist Zionist fascism in its organized state terrorism.

'Abd-Rabbuh Denounces 'Hostile' U.S. Remarks

LD2106164489 Kuwait KUNA in English 1752 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Text] Tunis, June 19 (KUNA)—PLO Executive Committee Member Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh lashed out at recent U.S. statements describing them as hostile to the Palestinian people in favor of the Israeli plan calling for elections in the (?occupied) land.

'Abd-Rabbuh, in a statement to PALESTINE NEWS AGENCY, strongly criticised recent statements by U.S. State Department official Dennis Ross in which he said the Palestinian state can never be established.

The Palestinian official, who headed the Palestinian delegation to the PLO-U.S. talks in Tunis, said the Bush administration continues to oppose worldwide desire to achieve lasting and just peace in the region based on the Palestinian rights to self-determination and independence.

The U.S. Administration should show positive attitudes toward the Palestinian peace initiative backed by 121 countries and the Arab League.

The past [word indistinct] proved that continuous U.S. support to Israeli terrorist and expansionist acts resulted in destruction and instability in the region and threatened world peace.

PLO's Hurani Assails U.S. 'Political Pressures'

JN1706114689 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic
15 Jun 89 pp 1, 30

[By Fathi al-Barqawi]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] In a statement to AL-ANBA', PLO Executive Committee Member 'Abdallah Hurani has said that the Palestinians should remain steadfast in the face of huge political pressures practiced by the U.S. Administration. He added that these pressures aim at making the Palestinians accept the Israeli Government plan for holding elections in the occupied territory and at striking at the intifadah [uprising].

However, Hurani affirmed that this steadfastness will force the U.S. Administration to change its posiiton "as it cannot endure the current situation for a longer time because the daily actions of the intifadah constitute a pressing factor on the international arena and exacerbate Israel's internal and external impasse."

Hurani stressed that so far the Americans have not presented anything tangible. He added that they want to deprive the PLO of its representation by its own will through exerting pressure in order to authorize another party to hold negotiations with the Israelis. At the same time, he added, America still adheres to the political limit it laid down—that is, no more than self-rule in accordance with the Israeli concept. And this Israeli concept says that the Palestinians are a minority in Israel. He added that the Israelis insist on calling the West Bank Judaea and Samaria and calling the Palestinians Arab citizens.

Answering a question on the use of holding more contacts with the U.S. Administration, Hurani said that the PLO holds dialogue with the concerned parties about the Palestine question even if they are enemies, particularly those as big as the United States because of the weight it carries in the international arena. He stressed the need to continue dialogue—provided that the PLO intensifies its activities in West Europe—which developed its position. And this was not accepted by the American side which rejects any distinguished role for West Europe.

The Palestinian official noted that the Casablanca summit resolution on the Palestinian peace initiative is explained by the majority of the Arab countries as a support for the peace initiative. And this was understood by the U.S. Administration during the recent contacts. According to Hurani, the resolution calls on the Arab states and people to stand on the side of the Palestinian initiative as an Arab plan based on Arab influence, not only as an authorization for the Palestinians to move freely.

Answering a question on whether the fourth round of Palestinian-American dialogue will officially take place in the coming few days, the PLO Executive Committee member noted that the American side promised during the last meeting to present a memorandum containing answers to the questions posed by the Palestinian side after presenting a report to the U.S. Administration on the results of the dialogue. He said: "We are still waiting for the response."

'Arafat's Peace Plan, Talks With Ghali Viewed

JN1606125089 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD
in Arabic 14 Jun 89 pp 1, 21

[Excerpt] Cairo—Paris—AL-ITTIHAD—News Agencies—Dr Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, presented President Husni Mubarak with a comprehensive report on the results of his meetings with ranking Israeli officials in the Zionist entity and 30 leading Palestinian figures from the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Butrus Ghali also met with Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat, head of the Palestinian State. During the meeting, he presented an evaluation of the results of his visit and the points of discussion with enemy Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, Zionist entity President Hayim Herzog, and Foreign Minister Moshe Arens. He also presented the results of his contacts with the Palestinian leadership.

On the other hand, AL-ITTIHAD has received the points of the Palestinian peace project which 'Arafat presented to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak in the meeting which took place between them the day before yesterday.

Informed Palestinian sources in Cairo told AL-ITTIHAD that 'Arafat briefed President Mubarak on the Palestinian peace project's details and affirmed the need that there be a united Arab stand on international contacts which could take place during the next period to support this project. The Palestinian project includes the following points:

1. That elections in the occupied territories take place under international laws and rules under the supervision of Security Council permament member countries and the United Nations secretary general.

2. That elections be the beginning of peace measures and not a final solution to end the Palestinian problem, as Israel believes, and that Israel be committed to the results of these elections.

3. That there be no concessions over Palestinian Arab territories occupied by Israel in return for the PLO's recognition of Israel's security borders. This principle should be discussed under the umbrella of the international peace conference.

4. That Israel necessarily stop its inhuman measures in the occupied Arab territories and the Israeli Government devote itself to formulating peace measures with the Arab countries.

5. The readiness of the PLO to exchange opinions and ideas dealing with the peace process to reach a final solution to the Palestine question with Israel through a third party to be decided on later on.

The sources pointed out that 'Arafat expressed his agreement over the queries posed by President Mubarak in his message to Yitzhaq Shamir conveyed by Dr Butrus Ghali. He pointed out that it truly expresses the Palestinian position on peace and Israeli measures. He asked that these queries be sent to the U.S. Administration.

'Arafat pointed out that in the case where Israel refuses to define its responses clearly and frankly on these queries, Egypt must ask for definite answers from the U.S. position toward it. These U.S. answers should then be discussed with Israel itself.

The sources pointed out that 'Arafat described the U.S. position in light of the last round of dialogue as not going so far as to grant the Palestinians their right to self-determination and repatriation. [passage omitted]

'Arafat Receives Italian Ambassador, Message

JN2106170189 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] Brother Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], president of the State of Palestine, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, received at the Embassy of the State of Palestine in Tunis on Monday His Excellency Italian Ambassador (Morino). During the meeting, the ambassador conveyed a message from Italian President Francesco Cossiga. The talks dealt with the latest developments in the Palestine question and the escalating Israeli crimes against our Palestinian people in the occupied territory, crimes that resulted in the fall of large numbers of martyrs and wounded, particularly during the past few days.

The brother president asked the Italian ambassador to convey a message to the Italian prime minister and foreign minister on the situation, particularly on the eve of the EC states' meeting in order to urge them to work to end the crimes, reopen schools and universities, and support the Palestinian peace process in the Middle East as declared in Geneva.

The meeting was attended by (Roberto Monsosa), the Italian minister plenipotentiary at the Italian Embassy; and Brother Hayil al-Fahum, chief of the European Desk of the PLO Political Department.

PLO Adviser Abu-'Ala' on Territories' Economy

PM2106134389 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 19 Jun 89 p 8

[Interview with Ahmad Abu-'Ala', "director general of the Samid economic establishment and economic adviser to Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat," by 'Irfan Rashid in Tunis; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Rashid] What is the present Palestinian program for the occupied territories?

[Abu-'Ala'] There are many things, but the most important one is employing workers and graduates; that is a central issue. This is because the manpower in the occupied territory totals some 270,000 workers, 120,000 to 130,000 of whom work for the Israeli entity. They must be returned and be liberated from that work link. Therefore, job opportunities must be found for them. This means that the programs allocated to the occupied territories must contribute to finding 175,000 job opportunities—not an easy task, especially under Israeli occupation. But the Palestinians, Arabs, and the world—individuals, companies, and establishments—can contribute to that by concentrating on setting up productive establishments. [passage omitted]

[Rashid] The Palestinian leader and the Unified Command of the Intifadah [uprising] have announced some economic objectives, especially with regard to setting up projects that would accommodate large numbers of workers and build the basic infrastructures for a national economy. From the beginning the intifadah has realized that that is not possible without the gradual breaking of the arbitrary link between the occupied territory's economy and Israel's. What basic measures have been taken in that regard?

[Abu-'Ala'] The question can be answered by listing some of the demands which the Intifadah National Command made and to which our masses have responded consciously and sacrificially. The most notable consist in urging the masses:

—To stop working in Israel and to return to the land and cultivate it;

—To stop consuming Israeli products, to work to find national alternatives to those products, to legalize [taqnin] consumption, to rely on the home economy, and to set up agricultural and consumer cooperatives for our national industries;

—To refuse to pay taxes and to call on Israeli civilian administration employees to resign.

Generally, the intifadah's economic weapon is an effective one within the framework of disengaging from the economic link with Israel, establishing a nucleus for an independent economy, and working to achieve self-sufficiency. [passage omitted]

[Rashid] What stage has been reached in the cooperation with international organizations and establishments to secure aid for the Palestinian economic establishment?

[Abu-'Ala'] Many establishments and states have begun to reconsider their previous stances, especially since the National Council decisions in Algiers, the Palestinian State proclamation, the naming of the head of state, and the Geneva UN decision allocating the PLO the seat of the State of Palestine.

The Palestinian State has so far been granted recognition by more than 100 states. And many of these states dealt with us even before the establishment of the state, considering the PLO a state. There are consultations with the Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Food Program to benefit from their projects, as our people have the right to benefit from them. And with cooperation from the UN Conference on Trade and Development we are now conducting a comprehensive study on the strategies for alternative developments in the occupied territories, future ideas, and developments alternatives when the state is established on the territory. So UN organizations deal with the PLO and the Palestinian State as an entity for the Palestinian people. [passage omitted]

[Rashid] And what has been achieved regarding the proposal for establishing a Palestinian port in Gaza to be a base for exports?

[Abu-'Ala'] Actually, the proposal was made originally to establish a fishing port. As you know, fishermen in Gaza are suffering badly. A Danish establishment conducted a very important study which the UN Development Program presented to some friends in West Europe. It was discussed and the ambition developed into a commercial port, but the occupation authorities have not yet granted a license for that. States wishing to implement the project will apply for a license and the United Nations will supervise it. It is a vital and important project, and if it were to be established, it would alleviate many of the fees, burdens, and problems facing Palestinian exporters. And it is also one of the essential, basic, and vital infrastructures for building a national economy.

Milhim Interviewed on Shamir Plan, PLO Charter

JN2106154289 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 20 Jun 89 p 20

[Interview with Muhammad Milhim, PLO executive member and head of the Department of the Occupied Homeland Affairs, by an unidentified AL-SIYASAH correspondent; date, place not given]

[Excerpts] [AL-SIYASAH] It has been recently circulated that the PLO is ready to accept the election idea proposed by Shamir in return for a recognition by Washington of the right to self-determination. Would you explain to us the political significance of this?

[Milhim] From the outset, we have to know that the Palestinian people's right to self-determination is not an issue for bargaining. The PLO's acceptance of free elections to be held in democratic atmospheres is not ruled out, as this has been a Palestinian demand voiced since the year 1980. We were deported while we were demanding the elections which were so adamantly rejected in the past by Begin and Shamir. The fact that Shamir made his election proposal despite this previous Israeli rejection is what surprises us. The facts show that the intifadah [uprising] is what forced Shamir to take this stand. However, the ideas that he proposes are different from the concepts the Western states have in mind and also different from the demands of our Palestinian people, especially as he is proposing an election idea tailored to suit his own thinking and designed to be held under the Israeli bayonets. Besides, he would not allow those elected to crystallize their political stands as they wish or to announce their support for the PLO. I believe that the PLO wants the elections. However, it does not want to be bitten twice by the same people. We want the United States, the Soviet Union, and world public opinion to secure the holding of elections and to guarantee the safety of those elected in a manner that would enable them to freely take the stands that they wish to take. When these things are secured, the PLO would have no reservations left. As for a recognition by Washington of the right to self-determination, we request this; and this is the demand that the PLO has requested since the beginning of the Palestinian-U.S. dialogue.

[AL-SIYASAH] In the face of the Israeli rejection of Palestinian rights, what would be the use, in your opinion, of a U.S. recognition of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination?

[Milhim] We have to know that the recognition by the world of the right to self-determination is an important thing. Securing U.S. recognition of this right is more important, as the United States and Israel are the only two parties which are opposing this right and the independent state. If the United States recognizes this right, a formidable obstacle would be removed.

[AL-SIYASAH] But you should not forget that this would be in return for a concession to be made by you on the elections issue.

[Milhim] I do not think that things proceed in this manner. We are saying yes to free elections within the framework of an integrated plan.

[AL-SIYASAH] It is clear that you have been unable to persuade the United States to recognize the Palestinian rights despite the fact that a long time has elapsed since the beginning of the Palestinian-U.S. dialogue and that three rounds of talks have been held so far. What then is the use of this dialogue?

[Milhim] Since the beginning, we have viewed the dialogue as a step forward and not as an end in itself. The objective is to see this dialogue come up with tangible political results such as a U.S. recognition of the right to self-determination and the establishment of a durable and just peace in the region.

[AL-SIYASAH] On this subject, it is known that the Americans are asking the PLO to cancel its charter. I believe that the Palestinian "caduque" gave the opportunity they have been waiting for. My question is: How will the Palestinians handle this U.S. demand? Will the PLO actually cancel [the charter] in return for some political deal?

[Milhim] We have to know that what President Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] declared was a clearly understood message which came within the framework of the political program set during the 19th round. The whole world understood this message. I believe that whoever asks for further concessions does not want to achieve a just peace in the region, knowing that the PLO presented in Algiers all the tangible practical evidence of the highest level and with the blessing of the Palestine National Council's majority. This came after it felt its strong position and responded to all the required conditions to establish peace. The other party should have made concessions on the same level. [passage omitted]

[AL-SIYASAH] Brother Abu-'Ala' [Muhammad Milhim]. Without delivering long introductions, will you cancel the charter?

[Milhim] Nobody in the world has the right to ask the PLO to cancel the charter or give any more concessions because the PLO, as I told you in the previous answer, gave the world all that was demanded of it to establish peace. The demand to cancel the charter is not intended to facilitate the peace process. Those who demand this are not intending to remove obstacles. They want the PLO to continue making concessions until it becomes nonexistent. I believe that whoever reads the political program will find that what the PLO gave so far is enough.

[AL-SIYASAH] As this is the case, why does the PLO not take a decisive position and declare its intention not to cancel the charter?

[Milhim] Why should it declare that?

[AL-SIYASAH] Because there is a great deal of talk about canceling it.

[Milhim] We cannot announce that we are not intending to end our existence. In other words, no human being has the right to ask me to cancel my existence. As for extrapolating on the concept which was contained in 'Arafat's caduque message and talk about other issues far-removed from that is a sign that the party asking for this is not concerned about peace. It wants to strip the PLO of its existence in the long term. This is not possible.

I believe that when the world directs its attention to Israel and asks it to give what it should in accordance with laws and international legislatures, everything will be laid out on the table, including everything that Israel has in the form of Zionist theories and the PLO has in the form of laws and charters.

[AL-SIYASAH] This is what we used to hear from the Palestinian leadership when it asked for the recognition of [UN Resolution] 242. What happened was that the Palestinian leadership recognized [UN Resolution] 242 before it even got to the negotiating table.

[Milhim] It was not possible to offer 3 years ago what we offered in the 19th round because our circumstances have changed and became stronger. In light of our great intifadah we have started taking our political positions from the position of one who is sure he will be victorious.

[AL-SIYASAH] You also dropped the issue of simultaneous recognition?

[Milhim] No. Nothing has been dropped. Everything will be proposed in the international conference. The aim is to get to the international conference. [passage omitted]

[AL-SIYASAH] Let us move to another subject. A contradiction has been recently noticed in the statements issued by the intifadah leadership. What is your explanation?

[Milhim] This is not strange. We in the Palestinian arena are proud of the existence of different opinions because this will consequently produce one opinion. I believe this is a sound phenomenon. And as you know, these statements are not printed in licensed printing houses. This will result in some faults. However, the differences would soon disappear and everybody will march on one path.

[AL-SIYASAH] The issue of using bullets instead of stones has been raised recently. Where has this issue reached?

[Milhim] So far, the decision of the intifadah leadership, the PLO, and the Palestinian people is that there is no need to use weapons.

[AL-SIYASAH] What is the reason behind this position? Has not the stage of stones ended?

[Milhim] I believe that the concern about the intifadah and its continuation makes the officials in the PLO think a thousand times before adopting any step or creating a new turning point in the march of the intifadah. And this is not out of fear, but out of concern to continue and

develop the intifadah. In order to declare civil disobedience, for example, the success must be guaranteed. The issue is not to declare that we will use arms; the issue is that if we want to follow a course it should be studied thoroughly and its results must be taken into consideration. The struggler carrying stones or a rifle should march on the path that will lead to the objective, not to the pit.

[AL-SIYASAH] Therefore, the issue of replacing the stones with bullets is not under discussion now?

[Milhim] When this issue becomes an auxiliary factor to achieve our objective and peace, which is our strategy now, nothing will prevent this. [passage omitted]

[AL-SIYASAH] Let us assume that Peres, Shamir, Rabin, and Kahane agreed to meet with you in your capacity as a PLO leader. With whom will you meet?

[Milhim] First, there must be a decision adopted by the PLO to agree on this meeting. But Muhammad Milhim as a person, who lived 13 years under occupation, was ready to meet any Israeli official from any party. If there is an Israeli readiness and the PLO agrees I will not hesitate at all.

[AL-SIYASAH] Will you meet with all of them without any considerations?

[Milhim] Yes. I will meet with them all or separately as long as there is a PLO decision to adopt this meeting in the interest of the Palestinian people.

[AL-SIYASAH] I can assure you that the PLO leadership agrees, particularly since its chairman announced many times his readiness to meet Shamir.

[Milhim] He who wants to resolve a problem should resolve it with the other party. And our problem is not with the Swiss people, but with the Israelis. In order to resolve this problem, we should meet at one of the stages. And if the meeting is not possible at the present time, it will be possible at an advanced stage. Otherwise, peace cannot be achieved.

[AL-SIYASAH] We understand from this that you are optimistic vis-a-vis the Israeli-Palestinian meeting?

[Milhim] I support all that achieves peace.

[AL-SIYASAH] Even if the meeting with them fails?

[Milhim] Success and failure are linked with the determination of the Palestinian people and the escalation of the intifadah. [passage omitted]

Egypt

Mubarak Reported To Meet Al-Qadhdhafi 23 Jun

NC2206093989 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] According to press sources, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak will meet with Libyan Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi in Marsa Matruh tomorrow.

Kuwaiti Information Minister Arrives for Visit

Arrives 20 Jun

NC2006122789 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 20 Jun 89

[Text] Kuwaiti Information Minister Shaykh Jabir Mubarak al-Hamad al-Sabah arrived in Cairo this afternoon on a 3-day visit to Egypt, at the invitation of Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif.

In a statement to our radio correspondent, the Kuwaiti minister said he will discuss all topics related to information in the two countries during his visit. He added that he is carrying a message from the amir of Kuwait to President Husni Mubarak.

Al-Sharif stated that the talks with Kuwait will cover a wide range of subjects related to the field of information.

Meets With Mubarak

NC2006142289 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1324 GMT 20 Jun 89

[Text] Cairo, 20 Jun (MENA)—Kuwaiti Information Minister Shaykh Jabir Mubarak al-Hamad al-Sabah said following his meeting with President Husni Mubarak here today that he had conveyed to the president a message from his Highness Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah. He also conveyed to the president greetings from Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister.

The Kuwaiti official said that President Mubarak had asked him to convey a message to the Kuwaiti amir and heir apparent. The Kuwaiti minister noted the cooperation between Egypt and Kuwait in all fields and added that we are doing our best to overcome any obstacles we might encounter in the course of bilateral cooperation in the field of information as well as other areas. The Kuwaiti official described Egyptian-Kuwaiti ties as long-standing.

Confers With Prime Minister Sidqi

NC2106123489 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi received Kuwaiti Information Minister Shaykh Jabir al-Mubarak al-Sabah at his office this afternoon. The meeting was attended by Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif.

After the meeting the Kuwaiti official said that he had conveyed a message to Dr Sidqi from the Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister. The message deals with ways to consolidate bilateral cooperation in all fields. He added that Dr Sidqi had renewed his invitation to the Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister to visit Egypt. He added that he and Dr Sidqi had discussed current Arab issues, the situation in the Middle East, and the new horizon for information cooperation between Egypt and Kuwait.

Agricultural Minister Meets Cuban Official 18 Jun

NC1806110789 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0815 GMT 18 Jun 89

[Text] Cairo, 18 Jun (MENA)—Dr Yusuf Wali, deputy prime minister, minister of agriculture and land reclamation, and secretary general of the National Democratic Party, met here today with Rodolfo Puentes, deputy director of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Cuban Communist Party [title as received]. The meeting was attended by Cuban Ambassador in Cairo Jorge Cubiles [title as received].

The participants in the talks discussed various aspects of cooperation between Egypt and Cuba at the party and agricultural levels. They also reviewed current international changes and the expected active role of the Non-aligned Movement in furthering the interests of its peoples and consolidating world peace.

Editorial Criticizes Warring Sides in Lebanon

JN1606140989 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 14 Jun 89 p 7

[Editorial: "This Disgrace"]

[Text] The terrible developments in the recent fighting in Lebanon affirm that the situation there calls for only slight optimism about that afflicted country following the reconciliatory summit conference in Casablanca. At the same time, the situation there poses a great danger to the new form and content of the Arab march.

The higher committee stemming from the Arab summit has authorized the Moroccan, Algerian, and Saudi foreign ministers to visit the Arab capitals involved in the issue to hold the necessary consultations to achieve a national accord, solve the constitutional problem, and hold a presidential election. The higher committee is made up of Moroccan, Algerian, and Saudi leaders. Lakhdar Ibrahimi, Arab League assistant secretary general, was entrusted with the task of discussing these issues in Lebanon itself. What has happened following sporadic shelling between the two parts of Beirut? The fighting was stepped up following Ibrahimi's arrival, and the two sides waged intensive missile and artillery duels, revealing the extent of the fighting fever between the two sides, which had to resort to self-restraint in the presence of the Arab League assistant secretary general, who did not sleep as a result of the fall of shells near his hotel.

It was said that the eruption of the fighting was aimed at pressuring Ibrahimi. This excuse is a thousand times worse than guilt itself, because it means undermining all Arab prestige, belittling the summit's resolutions, and regarding the Arab League official as persona non grata in an ugly manner.

The warring parties have previously used mutual deterrence to prove that they are there and to flex their muscles before other envoys, most of them foreigners. But using this method against the Arab League assistant secretary general to frighten him and even endanger his life is a disgrace in itself for every one carrying a weapon in Lebanon, not only because it is a blow to the Arab efforts, but also it violates all civilized and responsible behavior.

If the Arab image continues to be distorted in this way before the eyes of foreigners, there can be only one conclusion for the the ordinary Arab citizen: There are sides that are trying to undermine Arab efforts to achieve a Lebanese reconciliation, despite all moderate statements and all manifestations of optimism and accord.

Sidqi Postpones Turkey Trip Due to IMF Talks

NC2106160689 Cairo MENA in English
1525 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] Cairo, June 21 (MENA)—It was agreed to postpone the visit of Premier Dr 'Atif Sidqi to Turkey slated for next Monday to preside over the Egyptian side to the meetings of the Egyptian-Turkish joint committee.

This was stated by the Turkish ambassador here C. Onhon, who added that the visit was postponed in view of present engagements of Dr Sidqi in negotiations with the International Monetary Fund. The new date of the joint committee meetings will be set later on.

Agreement Signed With Greek Oil Company

NC2106130989 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1118 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] Cairo, 21 Jun (MENA)—Chemist 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil, minister of petroleum and mineral resources, has signed an agreement with the Greek Crete Oil and Gas Company for oil and gas prospecting in the Burj al-'Arab area west of Alexandria. This is the first time that a Greek company has bid for oil prospecting in Egypt.

According to the agreement, the Greek company will be obliged to spend $12 million in production grants and for rigging three wells during the prospecting period which is to last 7 years, beginning with a 3-year initial period. The area to be explored is 3,600 square kilometers.

The agreement provides that in the event petroleum is discovered, the explored area will become the subject of a 20-year development contract to be concluded between the company and Egypt.

Electricity Load of Town on Libyan Border Raised

NC1706110089 Cairo MENA in Arabic
0945 GMT 17 Jun 89

[Text] Cairo, 17 Jun (MENA)—Eng Mahir Abazah, minister of electricity and energy, has decided to boost the electricity load for the town of al-Sallum on the border.

Eng Abazah stated that three power units, each with a capacity of 100 kilowatts, have been set up on the Egyptian side of al-Sallum to boost the load. Two other units, each with a capacity of 80 kilowatts, have been set up on the Libyan side to provide power and light for the 3.5-kilometer road between the two sides. The road from the start of al-Sallum heights has also been supplied with lighting. The necessary lighting will be set up on the road after work is finished in the area to ensure the safety of vehicles' passage on this vital road.

Eng Mahir Abazah added that al-Sallum will be supplied with four diesel units and that one of these has already been set up. He said that the other three are being set up now so that the electricity capacity in al-Sallum will reach 3,000 kilowatts instead of the present 300 kilowatts. He added that the total cost of all these projects is around three million pounds.

Clandestine Radio Notes New Fundamentalist Group

NC1906081789 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Text] A group comprised of anti-government senior men of religion in Egypt has announced the establishment of a new movement called the Free Mujahidin Scholars [al-'ulama al-mujahidin al-ahrar]. A statement issued by the group criticizes the senior shaykhs of Al-Azhar University and advises them to return to the original Islamic principles.

In the statement, which was published by the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-WATAN in its latest edition, the group warns against the danger inherent in U.S. and CIA agents' infiltration into Al-Azhar University. The group states that the present leaders of Al-Azhar are tools of the U.S. imperialist policy in Egypt.

Trial of Egypt's Revolution Members Resumes

NC1306165289 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1555 GMT 13 Jun 89

[Text] Cairo, 13 Jun (MENA)—The supreme state security court resumed its sessions today in the trial of the members of Egypt's Revolution organization. The court listened to testimony from the first witness in the case, Brigadier General Fahd-al-Din Najm-al-Din from the state security department. The court decided to adjourn until 15 June to continue hearing to the witness' testimony.

At the beginning of the session, the prosecution put on record the absence of first defendant Mahmud Nur-al-Din, who is currently under treatment for a heart attack at Tura Hospital. The prosecutor also pointed out that the defendants' complaints about the treatment they are receiving in prison have been investigated and it has been determined that the Tura prison, in which the defendants are being held, is one of the best and most modern prisons. The prosecutor noted that defendant Ahmad 'Ali is currently being examined at the forensic medicine department.

In his testimony, Brig Gen Najm-al-Din stated that defendant Ahmad 'Isam-al-Din traveled to the United States in January 1987 to visit his sister. He denied that 'Isam-al-Din had contacted the American Embassy in Cairo either before or after informing Egyptian security authorities about the existence of the organization in August 1987. The witness confirmed that all recordings involving members of the organization had been authorized in advance by the General Prosecution Office. He stated that Mahmud Nur-al-Din, the leader of the organization, paid monthly salaries to the organization members. The witness pointed out that the prosecution office had been kept informed of all investigations in connection with the organization.

The witness declined to answer several questions involving confidential matters related to his job.

Case Adjourned Until 28 Jun

JN1706171289 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 16 Jun 89 p 16

[By Muhammad Tu'aymah]

[Excerpt] The emergency supreme state security court has adjourned the Egypt's Revolution organization case until 28 June. The court entrusted the prosecution with inquiring about and looking for the places of residence of the three U.S. witnesses—Dennis Williams, John Hock, and John C. Ford [names as published]—whom the defense counsel insisted on summoning and listening to, along with the 15th witness, Brigadier General Nabil Muhammad al-'Izabi, an Interior Ministry police inspector, whose testimony was demanded by the defense counsel. At the next session, the court will watch video recordings of the scenes where the incidents took place. [passage omitted]

Libya

Source Denies Plan To Attack Frankfurt Airport

LD2106173789 Tripoli JANA in English 1630 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] Tripoli, al-Sayf [June] 21, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The Voice of America radio quoted in a news item it broadcasted yesterday the West German magazine "STERN" publishing news about a terrorist attack plan on Frankfurt Airport.

In a statement to JANA an official Libyan Arab source confirmed that there was no relations what so ever between Great Jamahiriyah and such fabricated news and claimed allegations.

The official Libyan Arab source explained that such news come within the framwork of the sabotage operation to the relations of Great Jamahiriyah with other state and that such operations are carried out by the Zionist intelligence service "Mosad" and other hostile services which always worked towards defaming Great Jamahiriyah despite its repeated denunciation of all forms and shapes of terrorism.

JANA Editor on Collapse of Talks With Chad

LD2106182689 Tripoli JANA in English 1645 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] Tripoli, al-Sayf [June] 21, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—News agencies reported yesterday a commentary by Radio Chad about the outcome of the meetings organized by the Organization of the African Unity in Libreville and putting the responsibility for the collapse of such talks on Great Jamahiriyah.

JANA's political editor commented on that by saying:

Great Jamahiriyah, which was quick to announce by the leader of the great al-Fatih Revolution in al-Marrikh—March—of last year of our taking the initiative to resume relations with the brotherly Chadian people ot its natural status and Jamahiriyah has taken majors confirming its good intentions. [sentence as received]

The editor added that Great Jamahiriyah had refused to be dragged into rumours about what is happening and the struggle inside the Republic of Chad amongst Chadian functions.

JANA's political editor reaffirmed Great Jamahiriyah's support to the efforts of the Organization of African Unity and its readiness for full cooperation to accomplish security and stability for our African Continent in general and in Chad regions in particular.

Mauritania

Official Says Only Senegalese Repatriated

AB1906190389 London BBC World Service in English 1709 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Text] [Words indistinct] that they are systematically expelling black Africans from Mauritania. Refugees and aid workers in Senegal have said that 20,000 people were expelled from Mauritania in the last month and that the number is still rising. The Mauritanian officials said they have been repatriating only Senegalese Africans who have illegally got hold of Mauritanian papers and it was provided for by an agreement between the two countries.

A correspondent for the BBC in the Mauritanian capital, Nouakchott, said there was no officially available estimates of the number of the people the Mauritanian Government considers to be Senegalese and still living in Mauritania. But many of the black Africans in the country are generally considered to be Senegalese because they do not speak Arabic.

UN Secretary General on Senegal Conflict

AB2106174589 Paris AFP in French
1147 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] Nouakchott, 21 Jun (AFP)—United Nations's Secretary General Javiez Perez de Cuellar, who arrived yesterday afternoon in Nouakchott, is expected today to brief the Mauritanian head of state, Colonel Maaouiya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya, on his organization's efforts to find a solution to the Western Sahara problem. Mr de Cuellar stated on his arrival that he was "satisfied" with the outcome of his contacts with the Moroccan king. "An equitable and lasting solution must be found," he added.

Questioned on the Senegal-Mauritania conflict, the UN secretary general said the mediation efforts made in this respect were the responsibility of the OAU. "If the Mauritanian leader decides to discuss it with us, we will discuss it," but this problem is in the hands of the OAU, Mr Perez de Cuellar added.

Morocco

King Receives UAE President, Bahraini Heir

LD1906114489 Rabat MAP in Arabic
0900 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Excerpt] Rabat, 19 Jun (MAP)—Yesterday afternoon, His Majesty King Hassan II received UAE President Shaykh Zayid Ibn-Sultan al-Nuhayyan, who was accompanied by a delegation of the UAE Government.

His majesty also received Shaykh Hamad Ibn-'Isa Ibn-Salman al-Khalifah, the heir apparent of Bahrain, who is currently paying a private visit to Morocco. [passage omitted]

UN Secretary General Arrives on 2-Day Visit

LD1806202989 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 18 Jun 89

[Excerpts] UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar arrived this evening in Morocco on a 2-day working visit. [passage omitted]

Perez de Cuellar expressed his happiness to be in Morocco in order to hold talks with His Majesty King Hassan II and the Moroccan officials and to continue his efforts to reach a just and permanent solution to the Sahara issue as soon as possible. He added that he attaches great hopes to this visit which will be followed by a visit to Mauritania. Perez de Cuellar also expressed his optimism about finding a solution for the issue.

Perez de Cuellar on Talks With King

LD2006201389 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 20 Jun 89

[Text] Mr de Cuellar has expressed satisfaction over his talks with King Hassan II. Meeting the press prior to his departure from Rabat-Sale Airport this afternoon, he said that his talks with King Hassan covered the problems of the Sahara, the Lebanese crisis, and the efforts by the tripartite committee to find a solution to the latter.

Mr Perez de Cuellar affirmed UN readiness to cooperate with the tripartite committee. On the other hand, he pointed out that the creation of the Arab Maghreb Union had created a positive climate. He said that the atmosphere of friendship and cooperation between the states of the region would help in finding a solution to the Sahara problem.

Sudan

4,000 March To Protest Living Conditions

EA2106165589 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic
1430 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] Khartoum, 21 Jun—The People's Trade Union Solidarity staged a mass demonstration today, Wednesday in protest against the deterioration of economic and living conditions. The demonstration, in which about 4,000 citizens representing a number of trade unions and unions [words indistinct] participated, started in front of the Republican Palace and marched to the General Secretariat of the Council of Ministers, chanting slogans condemning the deterioration of economic conditions and the crises [words indistinct] the standard of living.

The demonstration marched under the (?supervision) of the police forces and the central reserves, who intercepted the procession prior to its arrival at the General Secretariat of the Council of Ministers. They allowed delegates from the procession, led by the head of the parliamentary group of the National Islamic Front, Muhammad Ahmad al-Fadil, to enter the General Secretariat to hand over a memorandum to the prime minister or the minister for the affairs of the Presidency [word indistinct] their participation in the emergency session held by the Constituent Assembly today, Wednesday, on the abortive coup attempt.

The head of the parliamentary group of the National Islamic Front pointed out in a press statement that the memorandum which dealt with the economic and security crisis and the deterioration of services would be submitted to the prime minister later.

BBC: Numayri Says Will Leave Cairo 'Soon'

AB2106185989 London BBC World Service in English 1615 GMT 21 Jun 89

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Just days after the Sudan Government accused ex-President Ja'far Numayri of inciting a coup plot, Numayri announced that he is leaving Egypt where he has been living in exile for the last 4 years. The announcement of the plot against the Khartoum government followed a number of public statements by Numayri which were highly critical of Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi's government. Since his overthrowing in 1985, Numayri's presence in Egypt has caused friction with Sudan. In Cairo, Jeffrey Phillips has been talking to Mr Numayri. On the line, Robin White asked him what he had to say:

[Begin recording] [Phillips] The former president told the BBC that he plans to leave Cairo soon—he did not say how soon that was—to go to London and then from London he would go on to an unnamed and undisclosed African country to fight against the government of Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi from there.

[White] Is he going voluntarily or has he perhaps been thrown out by the Egyptians?

[Phillips] No, he is going voluntarily, I think, because he told me today that he had not even told the Egyptians that he was going. On the other hand, we noted that the Egyptians have been quite pleased to use Mr Numayri's presence in Cairo to put some pressure on Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, who seems to have some problems at the moment.

[White] So, is he going to save the Egyptians embarrassment, do you think?

[Phillips] I do not think he really sees this in those terms. I think he wants to remove from the Sudanese prime minister, Mr al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, the excuse that the Egyptians are interfering in Sudanese affairs. I mean, partly he will save the Egyptians some embarrassment, but I think more, he wants to take this particular weapon away from the hands of Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi.

[White] And what kind of style has he been living in in Egypt?

[Phillips] Well, he is living in the district called Heliopolis, which is a good area of Cairo, and he is living in what the Egyptians call a palace, and I think we would regard it as rather a large country house, and he has been living fairly well. He has a telephone on his desk and he is constantly in touch with people all over the world, and while I spent a couple of hours with him yesterday, the phone almost literally did not stop ringing. [end recording]

MENA Cites BBC on Departure

NC2106204389 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2017 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] London, 21 Jun (MENA)—London radio this evening quoted former Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri as saying that he will leave for London soon.

According to the radio, the British Embassy in Cairo has explained that the decision to grant Numayri a visa to enter the country, if he applies for it, will be made in London.

Al-Mahdi Speaks to Assembly on Coup Attempt

EA2106191389 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1500 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] Khartoum, 21 Jun—The prime minister, Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, has spoken about the scale of the recent coup attempt in which the aim of the plotters was to seize power, bring the killer Numayri back from Cairo, liquidate all opponents of the coup, and later on, to (?liquidate) the killer Numayri himself.

In a statement to the Constituent Assembly today, Wednesday, Al-Mahdi said that by last Saturday the Armed Forces had received information that a coup was to be carried out at 11 o'clock on Monday. At that time the executive leadership was inside the Assembly building. After an artillery barrage, the radio station would be seized and units would start (?moving) on al-Shajarah, al-Wadi, Shambat, and the General Command.

Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi said that many elements had been helped (?and) encouraged by the legacy of problems left over from the defunct regime, including the war in the south and economic decline, as well as party and trade union shortcomings. He pointed out that the third party—the National Islamic Front—had abandoned its previous position and was trying to stir up trouble.

He noted that the deposed killer in Cairo was enjoying protection and freedom of movement, using resources smuggled from this country. He explained that it was not the first time for the killer to penetrate the Armed Forces and tinker with democracy. There had also been the conspiracies of the May [pro-Numayri] officers, of Brigadier (Nisad Muhammad Mustafa), and Lieutenant Colonel Hasan Muhammad Ahmad Nasr.

Al-Mahdi said that supporters of the May revolution had clear links with the killer Numayri. This was characterized by the use of pamphlets calling for the regime's return, cassette tapes recorded (?by the killer), (?insolent) press and radio commentaries, as well as [word indistinct] articles in the Sudanese press attacking the Armed Forces and their commanders.

Al-Mahdi said that 14 officers had been taken into custody. They include six brigadiers, six majors, and two

colonels. The search for the other [word indistinct] is continuing. He said the Armed Forces (?would) take the necessary precautions.

Al-Mahdi said that Article 53 of the Egyptian Constitution did not apply to the killer Numayri since he was responsible for the unjust September 1983 laws and for the explosion of the war in the south. There are political conditions attached to political asylum, he said. The matter must be settled by handing him over or deporting him from Egypt.

Al-Mahdi declared that some local newspapers were striving to wreck the Constitution. A balance should be struck between [word indistinct] and freedom.

Replying to questions from members of the Constituent Assembly, Al-Mahdi explained that the high cost of living, the war in the south, and economic problems were no justification for the plotters. He said: We want freedom and dignity [words indistinct].

Al-Mahdi said he had told Mr Ahmad al-Khalifah, editor in chief of AL-WATAN, that he would be held responsible if his interview with Numayri, which he published recently, was harmful to democracy. He concluded by saying that Sudan had special relations with Egypt. (?If Egypt makes a mistake), we are entitled to raise questions and to call for an explanation.

Newspaper Carrying Numayri Interview Confiscated

EA2106173689 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1000 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] Khartoum, 21 Jun—The security authorities last night confiscated the latest issue of AL-WATAN newspaper due to be published today, Wednesday, 21 June. A responsible security source said the measure was taken because the paper's editorial department insisted on continuing to publish an interview with the ousted Numayri in spite of warnings from the authorities not to do so, and because it was continuing to publish provocative articles against some political leaders.

Union Denounces Move

NC2106202289 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1915 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] Khartoum, 21 Jun (MENA)—The Sudanese journalists union issued a statement today denouncing the arrest and detention of a number of journalists, the confiscation of certain newspapers, and the imposition of censorship. The statement refers in this regard to the case of the Sudanese paper AL-WATAN, which was confiscated yesterday.

The statement, which was signed by Yusuf al-Shanbali, the secretary general of the journalists union, called for an end to all censorship of the press, the immediate release of the detained journalists, and the referral of all cases involving the press to court for judgment.

Kuwait

Foreign Minister Receives Velayati Message

LD2106142489 Kuwait KUNA in English 1315 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] Kuwait, June 21 (KUNA)—Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah Wednesday received a message from his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

The message was delivered by Iranian Charge d'Affaires in Kuwait Javad Torkabadi who called on Shaykh al-Sabah today at his office at the Foreign Ministry.

Shaykh al-Sabah told KUNA that the message dealt with bilateral relations and the Iranian Government decision regarding the release of six crewmen of a Kuwait Coast Guard [vessel].

The six crewmen returned home late Sunday [18 June].

Saudi Arabia

Philippines Foreign Minister Concludes Visit

LD2206093689 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2142 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Excerpts] Riyadh, 21 Jun (SPA)—His Excellency Raul Manglapus, foreign minister of the Philippines, left Riyadh this evening following a several-day visit to the Kingdom. [passage omitted]

He stressed that the Filipino Government is anxious to implement the Tripoli agreement of 1976 related to Muslims in the south of the Philippines.

He said, "The constitutional law adopted by the congress, and which is to be signed shortly by the president of the Philippines, does not only implement that agreement, but goes beyond it to grant home rule for the Islamic regions in the Philippines."

He added: "In conformity with the proposal of the Islamic Conference Organization secretary general, we will continue dialogue with the National Liberation Front." He stressed that his country will go forward in what it considers as the only way for the implementation of the Tripoli Agreement.

The Filipino foreign minister indicated that the constituent constitutional law of his country provides for establishing Islamic schools recognized within the framework of the Filipino educational law. He said: "We have articles which stipulate the implementation of Islamic law by Islamic courts."

Deputy Prime Minister Visits West Europe

For reports on Deputy Prime Minister and Defense Minister Prince Sultan 'Abdallah Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz's visits to France, Austria, and the Netherlands, his meetings with leaders of those countries, and his reported signing of an arms deal with France, see the 12 June West Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Foreign Minister Holds Talks With UK's Thatcher

For coverage of Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz's visit to Great Britain and his talks with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, see the 20 June West Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Yemen Arab Republic

President Salih Endorses Loan Agreements

JN2106204489 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, has endorsed Law No 13 of 1989 approving a loan agreement between the Yemen Arab Republic [YAR] and the International Development Association worth 12.5 million special drawing units, equivalent to $17.6 million, to finance a part of the cost of an agricultural and rural development project in the northern areas of Sanaa, Sa'dah, and Hajjah Governorates.

The president also endorsed Law No 14 of 1989 approving a loan agreement between the YAR and the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development worth 3.5 million Kuwaiti dinars, equivalent to $13.45 million, to finance a part of the cost of an agricultural and rural development project in the northern areas of Sanaa, Sa'dah, and Hajjah Governorates.

New Deputy Foreign Minister Appointed

JN2106204289 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] Presidential Decree No 47 of 1989 was issued today appointing Brother 'Ali Ahmad al-Khadr as deputy foreign minister.

Army Corps Disbanded; Border Towns 'Transferred'
JN2106191089 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Hasan al-Kashif dispatch from Baghdad]

[Excerpts] Iraqi preparations are under way to begin rebuilding the town of al-Faw 25 June. [passage omitted] Al-Faw is the only border town that is being rebuilt for morale considerations. As for the other border towns in the north, center, and south, they will be transferred to areas that are remote from the border. This decision covers Kurdish as well as Arab towns.

The al-Faw reconstruction is an important indication of Iraq's adherece to peace. This indication was corroborated today when Iraq announced that it has disbanded an Army corps deployed along the border. It is the special I Army Corps. This is the first step of its kind since the cease-fire began on 8 August 1988.

The disbanding of the special I Army Corps, which is composed of several divisions, was announced in a big celebration in al-Kut town today.

Seven Iraqi Army corps are still in their positions, in addition to the Presidential Guard Corps.

Further on Army Corps
JN2206112289 Baghdad INA in English 0945 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] Baghdad, June 22, INA—Iraq has dissolved the First Special Army Corps which served in the central sector since May 15 1986.

A report published here today by the Iraqi English-language daily "THE BAGHDAD OBSERVER" said that a ceremony and parade were held on the occasion in central Wasit Province and was attended by the Chief-of-Staff of the Armed Forces, General Nizar 'Abd-al-Karim al-Khazraji.

General al-Khazraji told "THE BAGHDAD OBSERVER" First Special Corps had done an excellent job. The Corps is to be mentioned deservedly in particular for its role in the battles of Tawakalna 'Ala Allah the 3rd and 4th when it destroyed many enemy armoured division, he said. [sentence as received]

He added that the Corps was set up in 1986 upon orders by President Saddam Husayn.

The establishing of the Corps by recruiting retired Army officers was part of the president's strategy to involve former military experts in the defence of the country, he said.

However, he said, Iraq Armed Forces are well prepared and strong enough to destroy any aggression whenever it happens. "Therefore, the dissolution of the Corps would not affect Iraqi Army's might."

Iraq had been calling for peace since the beginning of the war which was started by the Iranians on September 4; a few days after that, President Saddam Husayn called for ending the conflict peacefully.

The First Special Corps parade was attended by a large number of senior Army officers and foreign and Arab military attaches in Baghdad.

Speaking at the ceremony the acting commander of the Corps, Brigadier Natiq Shakir said the First Special Corps was formed of retired Army officers who were asking to have a role in the defence of Iraq.

Within weeks the Corps was formed in May 1988 [as received] and undertook the responsibility of defending an important sector of the warfront.

A few months after its formation, the Corps was involved in a fierce battle which was known as the Allahu Akbar Battle on September 18, 1986. The Corps was able to destroy the enemy forces engaged in the battle in a highly efficient manner.

He said that the president was personally following up the performance of the Corps and visited it on May 28, 1987.

During the fighting at the final stages of the war, the First Special Corps was able not only to liberate Iraqi lands but also to penetrate some 92 kilometres into Iranian territory towards Zarin Abad and the Shihabi Jenkola Axes. The Corps later withdrew from that territory and took part in other battles.

During the battle which took place from July 19 to 27, 1988, the Corps destroyed the enemy forces at an area of 900 square miles. It destroyed the enemy's 16th Armoured Division and Divisions 84 and 11 and regiments of the so- called Revolutionary Guards.

During that period, the Corps captured large numbers of Iranian officers and soldiers as well as 356 tanks and armored personnel carriers. It also seized 442 guns and mortars and 633 pieces of equipment and huge quantities of ammunition.

The commander who was the first to undertake the forming of the Corps was General 'Isma'il Tayih al-Nu'aymi. He told "THE BAGHDAD OBSERVER" that two other senior officers had assisted him in forming the Corps.

General al-Nu'aymi said that the forming of the Corps was part of the president's strategy to respond to the Iranian call for a "decisive year" in the war. "It certainly did very well in defending the country".

The West German military attache in Baghdad, Mr. Huebschen [name as received], who attended the parade, said that for him the demobilization is first of all a political signal to the Iranians and the whole world. It indicates the leadership and people's faith in peace and determination to acheive it, he said.

Brigadier General Mandolis [name as received], the Greek military attache, said that the military parade was in good order and the soldiers were highly disciplined. They reminded him of his early service and youth, he said.

"In my opinion, by demobilizing troops, Iraq is showing goodwill and its belief in peace. I also believe that Iraq has enough confidecne in its forces to do the mobilization." He said.

Chadian Foreign Minister Meets President Saddam

JN2106165689 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] His Excellency President leader Saddam Husayn has received a written message from Chadian President Hissein Habre on the ties of friendship and cooperation existing between the two friendly states and the developments of the situation in Chad and the area surrounding it.

Foreign Minister Acheik Ibn-Oumar conveyed the message during a reception accorded to him by the president leader this afternoon.

During the meeting, they discussed the prospects of developing bilateral relations and the political issues of common interest, particularly those pertaining to peace and stability in the Arab Gulf region and Chad.

His Excellency President leader Saddam Husayn asked Acheik Ibn-Oumar to convey his greetings to President Hissein Habre and his excellency's wishes to Chad of stability in the region and of resolving the problems facing it through political means.

The meeting was attended by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Trade Talks Held 21 Jun

JN2106200489 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1900 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Jun (INA)—Technical talks designed to promote Iraqi-Chadian economic ties were held at the Ministry of Trade today.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed ways to develop, promote, and activate bilateral trade relations and to prepare for the conclusion of a bilateral agreement on bilateral economic, trade, and scientific cooperation. They also discussed preparations for holding the first session of meetings of the Joint Iraqi-Chadian Committee in Baghdad in November.

Faruq al-'Ubaydi, head of the Foreign Economic Relations Department at the Ministry of Trade, headed the Iraqi side to the talks. Representatives of the Ministries of Trade, Industry and Military Industries, Agriculture and Irrigation, Oil, and Higher Education attended the meeting.

Abdelkader Yacine, ambassador at the Chadian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, headed the Chadian side to the talks. Representatives of the Ministries of Planning and Cooperation, Foreign Affairs, and the Chadian ambassador in Baghdad attended the meeting.

Joint Railway Project With Jordan Approved

JN2106131489 Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 18 Jun 89 p 1

[AL-THAWRAH correspondent dispatch from Amman]

[Text] A joint technical committee between the Jordanian and Iraqi ministries of transport has approved a project to construct an 1130 km long railway line between al-Hadithah city in Iraq and Jordan's al-'Aqabah and at a total cost amounting to $1.887 billion.

It is expected that this railway line will transport 2.5 million travellers and 10 million tons of goods a year.

Jordanian sources said that this national project is considered to be one of the major means for economic integration between the Arab Cooperation Council's countries and will strengthen regional links between the Arab countries.

Rabin Answers Knesset Motions on Ari'el Killing

TA2106173689 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1605 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin today said at the Knesset that we are in the midst of a hostile clash with a large portion of a population that engages in violent activities against us. Only patience and endurance will help us get through this period. The defense minister was answering motions to the Knesset agenda that followed the murder of an Ari'el resident yesterday. Our correspondent in the Knesset, Ze'ev Kohen, brings us Minister Rabin's remarks:

[Begin recording] [Kohen] We are in a confrontation with a population of which a large portion is involved in violent activities, says Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin. We must operate on two levels: The level of the government's peace initiative and the level of the military activity. The world should realize that firebombs and murders with knives will not move us a single inch from our positions.

[Rabin] It is inconceivable that if the peace initiative is accepted by the residents of the territories, the elections will be held under violent conditions. I, however, have all the reasons to believe that if indeed their answer is positive, the level of violence will eventually drop. It is possible that extreme elements who oppose the peace initiative will launch an internal terror campaign against Palestinians, and perhaps even against Israelis, in an attempt to foil it.

[Kohen] There are no easy solutions, says the defense minister. Not even a 3-year stay in Lebanon helped solve problems. If the people of Israel want to implement their rights and defend themselves, they should be patient and prepare for a prolonged confrontation. [end recording]

[Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic at 1630 GMT on 21 June carries a similar report containing a recording of Rabin addressing the Knesset in which he says: "If there is a willingness on the part of the authorized parties—meaning, the schoolmasters, the teachers, and the parents' associations—to make sure that their schools do not become centers for violence, they could be opened. Unfortunately this is not what they desire. That is why schools will remain closed, as ordered. We will continue trying, from time to time, to create an atmosphere in Judaea and Samaria that is similar to that prevailing in the Gaza Strip, which is appropriate and expresses the public wish to make a distinction between violence and schools—apart from scattered incidents that caused us to close some eight schools, not hundreds. When this is the situation in Judaea and Samaria, schools will open there. I only hope that the Palestinian residents of Judaea and Samaria learn from the Gazans how to make this distinction between studies and violence."

Rabin goes on to say: "I wish to tell the Arab states with which we have not yet reached peace, and the Palestinian residents of the territories: We want peace. The solution to the bulk of the problems between us will not be found through confrontation. You will achieve nothing through confrontations. Rather, we must meet at the negotiating table, according to what the Israeli Government stipulated in a 20 to 6 majority with its peace initiative."]

'No Magic Cures'

TA2206071289 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 22 Jun 89 pp 1, 12

[Report by David Makovsky]

[Excerpt] Calling the uprising "perhaps the most complex confrontation in Israel's history," Defence Minister Rabin said in the Knesset yesterday that Israel is facing a protracted conflict with "most" of the Palestinian population and added that there were no magic cures such as deportations, while MK [Member of Knesset] Yosi Sarid warned that the actions of some settlers have paved the way for civil war.

Defending the government's policies against right-wing members demanding stronger measures, Rabin said the IDF remained determined to fight the intifadah [uprising], and warned that lack of harsher measures should not be seen as weakness.

Rabin slammed a suggestion by Tzahi Hanegbi (Likud) that mass expulsion of the leaders would end the intifadah. "If the problem was just the deportation of a few thousand, the problem would have already been solved." Rabin said that he suspected simple solutions to complex problems, adding that this approach in the Lebanon War had killed more Jews and Arabs than would have been killed in 30 years of fighting an intifadah.

But, he added, "Palestinians, Arab states, and the international community should know that intifadah pressure tactics will not move Israel one millimetre from its policy on a peace settlement. He spoke of extremists who sought to torpedo Israel's diplomatic initiative, but he did not elaborate. [passage omitted]

Further on Rabin Briefing

TA2206102789 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 22 Jun 89 p 12

[Report by David Makovsky]

[Text] Israel's policy of protecting the north of the country by use of a security zone in Lebanon has proved successful in preventing terrorist infiltrations, Defence Minister Yitzhaq Rabin told the Knesset yesterday during a review of IDF [Israel Defense Forces] activities in the north.

Not one Israeli civilian has been hurt in 1989 and the IDF has foiled 13 infiltration attempts since the beginning of the year, he said. Rabin also lauded northern residents for their resilience.

Rabin complained that the fight in the north does not receive sufficient public attention in Israel. He said that 50 IDF soldiers serving in the north had died in the line of duty in the last four years, with only one killed during the last six months. Ten South Lebanese Army soldiers have been killed in the last half year.

The defence minister noted that 60 terrorists had been killed in the first half of this year, and remarked that the 13 attempted infiltrations from Lebanon were organized by "PLO groups." He said that George Habash's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and Nayif Hawatimah's Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine were each responsible for four attacks, but he did not accuse Fatah.

Rabin saluted the residents of the north for bearing up in the face of danger and for cooperating with the army, and suggested that more money be found to assist the northern towns.

'Secret' Israeli Election Proposal Detailed

TA2206152889 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 22 Jun 89 pp 1, 11

[Text] Paris—Reliably informed Western diplomatic sources have revealed that Jordan rejected a secret proposal calling for the formation of an Egyptian-Jordanian-Palestinian delegation whose task would be to negotiate with Israeli officials on the procedure of holding and arranging elections in the West Bank and Gaza.

These sources said that the Israeli Government suggested to the U.S. Administration, as well as to a Middle Eastern party, that the necessary contacts be held toward setting up a delegation that would include Egyptian and Jordanian officials, and also representatives from the residents of the West Bank and Gaza. This delegation would negotiate with the Israeli Government on arranging the elections in the occupied territories.

These sources explained that this secret Israeli proposal contains the following points:

1. Prior to holding elections in the West Bank and Gaza, the Israeli Government proposes that preliminary talks be held between an official Israeli delegation and a delegation consisting of representatives from residents of the occupied territories, as well as from the Egyptian and Jordanian Governments. Egypt has an interest in this issue since the Israeli Government holds that any new peace process should simultaneously be based on UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, and on the Egyptian-Israeli Camp David agreement. As to Jordan, the Israeli Government believes that Jordan might have an interest in this issue as well, because of its required role in any solution of the Palestinian problem.

2. The purpose of these preliminary talks between an Egyptian-Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and an Israeli delegation is to reach understanding on the foundations of a new peace process regarding the West Bank, Gaza, and the Palestinians on the one hand, and on the measures pertaining to the holding of elections in these territories on the other.

3. First and foremost, elections in the West Bank and Gaza should lead to the selection of a Palestinian representative body that would negotiate with the Israeli Government on a two-stage solution—the first, a transitional stage, and the second, a final solution stage.

The transitional stage would lead to granting the West Bank and Gaza Palestinians self-rule. In the framework of this self-rule the Palestinians would be running their own daily affairs, while the Israeli Government would be responsible for security, foreign policy, and everything that concerns Israeli citizens in these territories. This transitional stage would last 5 years, but 3 years after this stage begins talks would be launched with the aim of reaching agreement on a final solution. The Israeli Government agrees on the participation of Egypt and Jordan, along with the Palestinian representative body, in the talks regarding the transitional stage and the final solution stage, but naturally the decision on Egypt's and Jordan's participation depends on the governments of Cairo and Amman.

4. Should the Jordanian Government agree to participate in the talks, whether in the transitional or final solution stages, this participation must lead to the signing of a peace treaty between Jordan and Israel, and to finding a permanent peace settlement for the borders between the two countries.

5. Should the Jordanian Government refuse to take part in these preliminary talks for holding elections, the Israeli Government would be ready to discuss these matters with a delegation confined to only Egyptian officials and representatives of West Bank and Gaza residents, or even a Palestinian delegation comprising representatives from the West Bank and Gaza.

6. The Israeli Government believes that elections in the West Bank and Gaza cannot be held before these preliminary talks are conducted in order to reach agreement on a number of basic issues relating to this process.

It has been learned that the Israeli side proposed that these preliminary talks be held either in Egypt, the United States, or a neutral country. Agreement would then be reached in these talks with the various parties concerned.

These reliably informed Western sources revealed that U.S. officials discussed this Israeli proposal in secrecy with responsible Jordanian parties. The matter was also discussed with Egyptian officials and the PLO leadership. The Israelis themselves informed Egyptian officials directly of the contents of their proposal.

The sources pointed out that the Jordanian response to this Israeli proposal, conveyed to the U.S. Administration, was negative. The Jordanian officials refused to take part in preliminary Egyptian-Jordanian-Palestinian-Israeli talks for preparing elections in the West Bank and Gaza.

The sources noted that it is obvious from the ongoing contacts with Jordan that, at least in the current stage, the Jordanian authorities want to dissociate themselves from the elections process, especially since no agreement has yet been reached on a unified formula for holding elections acceptable to both the PLO leadership and the Israeli Government. Despite this Jordanian refusal, however, U.S. officials are continuing their efforts and contacts with Amman regarding this issue. On the other hand, the Egyptian Government and the Palestinian leadership have expressed their readiness to discuss the principle of conducting preliminary Egyptian-Palestinian-Israeli talks for holding elections. This readiness is on the condition that the Palestinian people's representatives, who will be chosen by the PLO leadership, will be allowed to raise their proposals, demands, and terms for accepting elections in the West Bank and Gaza in the talks.

Likud Peace Plan Opponents Raise 4 Conditions

TA2206050889 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] Likud Ministers David Levi, Ari'el Sharon, and Yitzhaq Moda'i ended last night their conference of Likud members opposed to Prime Minister Shamir's peace initiative. The conference decided to propose that the Likud Central Committee meeting on 5 July condition the peace plan by Israel to the end of the Palestinian uprising. In an interview with reporter Le'a Zinder, Minister Moda'i said the conference adopted four changes it wants to see introduced in the peace plan.

[Begin recording] [Moda'i, picked up in midsentence] ...means that the intifadah [uprising] must stop or be stopped, not for the duration of the elections alone, but as long as we negotiate. Hopefully we can come to terms. The second one is that the Arabs of East Jerusalem cannot participate in the voting because the land goes with the people that vote, and if we do not want to give up Jerusalem or part thereof, they can't vote. They can vote for any other elections that they wish, but not for the Palestinian elections. The third condition is, of course, that no Palestinian state will ever be established between the Jordan and the Mediterranean, and the fourth one that was pronounced to you clearly is that we should not, we will not stop settlements. That should continue because this is the safeguard for the State of Israel.

[Zinder] Mr Moda'i, the poll that was released today showed a fairly clear majority within the Likud in favor of the prime minister's peace initiative. Do you think you can change this situation between now and 5 July?

[Moda'i] What does it show even on behalf of those who represented it? It shows that the position that no changes should be introduced is supported by 300 members or by 350 of the merkaz [central committee]. This is a very small minority. When you know who has prepared these polls, you can come to a conclusion that even these figures are exaggerated. But if this is the big success, then I feel very confident about the outcome of the merkaz assembly on 5 July.

[Zinder] One more question, Mr Moda'i: I understand that you will insist on vote being taken at the meeting of the central committee on 5 July. Is that correct?

[Moda'i] Unless it's agreed by everybody that these four conditions should be incorporated in a resolution taken by the central committee. [end recording]

Rabin Responds to Demands

TA2206073289 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0500 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Telephone interview with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by Gad Becker—live]

[Excerpt] [Becker] Good morning to you, Mr Defense Minister.

[Rabin] Good morning to you, too.

[Becker] The topical issue connected to the peace initiative jointly consolidated by you and the prime minister is yesterday's convention of opponents to the initiative within the Likud, led by Ministers Levi, Sharon, and Moda'i. I assume you are closely following the struggle being waged in the Likud on this matter. Do you have any indication which way the wind is blowing there?

[Rabin] No, I am not involved in internal Likud matters, unless they affect the unity government's ability to exist and function. We had better remember that the present government is one of national unity. I was one of those who acted within my party, the Labor Party, for the establishment of this government, which must reflect the positions of both major parties. Neither one of these parties can impose its positions on the other. The peace initiative, as it was upheld in the cabinet meeting by a decisive majority, enables the parties that make up the national unity government to progress with the peace process jointly, at least during the first stage. I have attached and still attach a great deal of importance to

this. Let me add here: As I heard—if I am not mistaken, and if the media reports are accurate—one of the conditions raised in yesterday's convention for the existence of a political move according to the government's initiative is liquidating the intifadah [uprising]. I simply do not understand: Must we now inform the U.S. Government that the plan Shamir presented before it is invalid and no longer exists? What is the meaning of delaying political moves that are based on the government's peace initiative? After all, it is inconceivable that, in the wake of the demand made in the so-called proposals raised in yesterday's convention, the prime minister will have to tell the Americans, the world, and the Israeli people that everything he has said no longer applies. If, if...

[Becker, interrupting] The question, Mr Rabin, is whether one of these conditions that you mentioned, the liquidation of the intifadah, can be met. In your opinion, is the fulfillment of this condition unnecessary, or is it impossible?

[Rabin] As I see it, the government today is active on two planes, both simultaneously and separately. One of the planes is the peace initiative, which is directed at the residents of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. They are the exclusive address of the government's peace initiative. The other plane is that of following the government's basic guidelines. It is worth mentioning here that these guidelines were not written 4 years ago or 18 months ago, but a mere 6 months ago, when the intifadah in the territories was a year old, and they do not contain the term liquidating the intifadah. This seems like a literary expression to me. It is too reminiscent of the liquidation, annihilation, and uprooting of the terror in Lebanon, which led us to the most failed and miserable of all wars initiated by Israel. Therefore, as it was laid down, the definition of the IDF's [Israel Defense Forces] mission is to bring about calm and to keep the various networks, the Civil Administration and the local administration, which are absolutely necessary for law and order in the territories, functioning. The IDF does this while clearly abiding by the law. These are the two planes of action, and neither one of them should be made conditional on the other. [passage omitted]

Shamir Cited on Uprising, 'Cruel' Measures

TA2206065889 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 22 Jun 89 p 12

[Report by Jewish affairs editor Charles Hoffman]

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said last night that Israel, as a democratic country, cannot put down the intifadah [uprising] with "cruel, drastic measures that would mean a considerable loss of life." Nevertheless, he said, "the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] and our security forces have the determination, the power and the patience to deal with the violence until we break its back."

Shamir spoke to the closing session of the Zionist General Council, which met this week in Jerusalem. [passage omitted]

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in English at 0400 GMT on 22 June adds that addressing the council, Prime Minister Shamir said "that autonomy under the Camp David agreements will not lead to the establishment of a Palestinian state."]

Abu-Lughod Terms Shamir Plan 'PR Gimmick'

TA2206060889 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 22 Jun 89 p 1

[Report by Walter Ruby]

[Text] New York—A prominent member of the Palestine National Council [PNC] yesterday criticized the PLO for allowing itself to appear to be opposed to elections in the territories.

Ibrahim Abu-Lughod, a U.S. citizen who has reportedly been named by Yasir 'Arafat as one of the Palestinians outside the territories who can join West Bankers and Gazans in negotiations with Israel over the terms of the elections, told THE JERUSALEM POST: "It is very important for the Palestinians to be positive on the elections issue, to be explicit about their willingness to negotiate an open and decent electoral process."

Calling Prime Minister Shamir's proposal "a brilliant public relations [PR] gimmick," Abu-Lughod continued: "Since Shamir is clearly not serious about elections, and is only putting forward a PR gimmick aimed at the U.S., the PLO should have understood Shamir's proposal for what it was and countered it in a way that would inspire confidence in the U.S. public.

"The PLO has not said 'no' to the principle of elections, but that message hasn't come across."

Abu-Lughod said that the PLO should put forward a reasonable sounding proposal to the U.S., "so as to expose Shamir's game."

He added: "I personally have no doubt the PLO would accept elections that are guaranteed by the U.S. to be free and open, and in which the people elected could not later be expelled. But before elections are agreed to, we must clarify who is being elected. Are we talking about electing members for the PNC, or mayors, or what? If Shamir says we are electing members of a negotiating team, then what will they be negotating?"

Al-Husayni Urges Agreement Before Conflict Changes
TA2106124189 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1005 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Report by Yo'el Dar]

[Text] Faysal al-Husayni appears frequently in Nabulus and Haifa, Hebron and Tel Aviv, but his remarks are not always made in the same tone and style, and do not always have the same meaning.

This week, in reply to questions by editors of the Israeli Arab weekly AL-'AJAMI, published in Yafo, the Damascus-born East Jerusalem leader promises that Israel will be forced to pay a high price if it incites them too much.

Faysal al-Husayni said the following: The intifadah [uprising] achieved a great deal without the use of live ammunition because it succeeded in neutralizing the Air Force, the Artillery Corps, and automatic weapons, and forced Israel to challenge them with light weapons. This type of war suits them, but he immediately adds: Israel must know that if it uses live ammunition it will not come up against the same fighter it knew before the 6-Day War, but a more daring fighter prepared to make sacrifices.

It is true that the Palestinians might have to pay with many casualties but the other side will have to pay a higher price than it paid in the past.

Since this is the situation, as he sees it, Faysal al-Husayni suggests to both sides that an agreement should be reached before what he called the Israeli provocations succeed in forcing one of the sides to change to another type of conflict just as time is working in their favor. [Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew or. 21 June, in a report by Pe'erli Shahar on page three, adds that Faysal al-Husayni yesterday addressed the political and defense forum of the Labor Party's Tel Aviv branch. Al-Husayni referred to the Shamir peace plan, and said: "There is something to discuss in Shamir's political plan, but not when he constantly states 'not an inch, no talks with the PLO, and no Palestinian state.'"

Al-Husayni added that the intifadah is a result of the Lebanon war. He explained that "the intifadah brings the Palestinian people's war back to Palestine, and allows its representatives to express their positions without fear. The moment the PLO suggested the two-state solution, the Palestinian people in the territories began to rise up because this an understandable goal which is acceptable to the Palestinians, and appears logical to both parties." He added that both sides have to wake up from their "big dreams of a Greater Eretz Yisra'el or Greater Palestine and shrug off the nightmares and fears that exist for both parties."

Responding to a question as to how a small Palestinian state would be able to exist next to Israel, Al-Husayni said that "if the Palestinians do not get a small homeland, they will always aspire to return to Haifa, Yafo, and Ramla."]

Meridor on U.S.-PLO Dialogue, Settlers, Plan
TA1806074289 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0405 GMT 18 Jun 89

[Interview with Justice Minister Dan Meridor by Shim'on Schiffer upon the conclusion of Meridor's talks in Washington—recorded]

[Text] [Schiffer] Justice Minister Dan Meridor does not make any attempt to beautify the situation. During a meeting with Israeli correspondents and also in a public appearance, he made no attempt to conceal the deep differences between Israel and the United States regarding the nature of an accord with the Palestinians.

Meridor estimates that Israel still has a chance to influence policymakers in Washington. This issue was discussed at length in his talks with Secretary of State Baker.

Meridor says that among the encouraging signs he encountered were the letters sent by various congressmen to Baker. The House of Representatives sent a letter to Baker over the weekend, signed by 236 out of the 435 members of the House. The letter calls on Baker to pressure the Arab states to adopt the Israeli peace initiative. I discussed U.S.-Israeli relations with Justice Minister Dan Meridor upon the conclusion of his talks here in Washington.

[Schiffer] Mr Minister, the dialogue between the PLO and the United States is intensifying, and there was another meeting in Tunis. It is becoming apparent that in spite of all of Israel's protests, the United States is persisting in adhering to the line of a dialogue with the PLO on the one hand, and a dialogue with Israel on the other. Have you formed any estimate of what is going on here in Washington?

[Meridor] I am not sure that the dialogue between the United States and the PLO is intensifying. I am sure that if this dialogue continues—and if the focus is put on the dialogue in Tunis—the political initiative we formulated, and which now constitutes the central issue in the peace process, will have much less chance of success. We want to bring about the election of representatives by the Arab residents of Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip. They must make a difficult decision. If the signals they receive show that the real show is in Tunis, and the talks are being held there, there is a very small chance of them taking the initiative into their own hands. I made this position clear to the U.S. officials with whom I spoke.

[Schiffer] Nevertheless, the U.S. Administration, in public, and also behind closed doors, demands that Israel stop setting up new settlements. We remember Baker's

speech in which he referred to the "unrealistic dream." Did you discuss these issues during your talks, and what was the position you attempted to clarify?

[Meridor] I suggested that none of us try to define which dreams are unrealistic and which are realistic. America used to be called the great dream, and it has become a reality. Zionism is also a great dream that is turning into a reality. We never accepted the view that anyone can settle in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip—as long as he is not Jewish. This is what the demand to stop the settlement process really means. After all they are not asking us to stop the Arabs from settling, building houses, or buying lands. No, only Jews. A rule like this would be inconceivable in New York, and it is also inconceivable in the center of our country in Bethlehem, Bet El, and Ma'ale Adummim. Consequently, even if there is such a basic principled American demand, we cannot accept it even in principle.

[Schiffer] Against such a background, your statement, and the U.S. statements, do you even expect any progress in the peace process in the next few months?

[Meridor] It is not easy to move forward in the peace process, but I think it can be done. The condition for this is the existence of Arabs in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip who will agree to join the process. Everything boils down to this: We will have an interlocutor. It is enough that the Arabs understand that they have no better alternative. This means that first of all they must comprehend that the intifadah [uprising] will not avail them. Secondly, they must understand that the United States will not change its position. Israel is offering them a plan, and if the United States will tell them—and I told my interlocutors in the United States that in my opinion it should tell them—that this is the plan and you must accept it as such; do not let it pass by—if the United States tells them this, and makes it clear that there is no chance of any change in the U.S. position, I hope there will be Arabs in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip who will understand that they are facing a historical choice. They can either join the process and substantially alter their situation by taking what we have offered them, or remain in the same quagmire, in the same dire straits that we, and them, have been stuck in for so long. They are in a worse predicament than we.

[Schiffer] Are you leaving Washington with the feeling that your interlocutors understood your explanations or are willing to move closer to this position?

[Meridor] I cannot speak for the Americans, but they undoubtedly understood what I told them.

[Schiffer] Thank you Mr Meridor.

Editorial Views 'Discrepancies' in U.S. Policy

TA2006153389 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 17 Jun 89 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "The U.S. Positions Between Theory and Implementation"]

[Text] It is, of course, not important that the United States criticizes Israel's policy in the occupied territories or that James Baker is forced to make hard-hitting statements against this policy. It is also not important that the United States—under pressure from the international community—embarks on opening a lukewarm and superficial dialogue with the PLO and exploits this dialogue in order to slow down the momentum of the Palestinian diplomatic offensive in the international arena.

What is important, though, is how serious the U.S. positions are regarding the crisis; what the extent of U.S. influence is on the Israeli positions; and what steps the United States can take toward finding a just settlement of the Palestinian problem?

U.S. data, from the political and propaganda viewpoints, tell us that the United States is playing a game of procrastination and deceit and is diverting attention from the crux of the problem. Palestinian talk about Israeli practices in the occupied land is followed by a different U.S. language at the Security Council, and Palestinian talk about the right to self-determination is followed by a different U.S. language in support of the Israeli election plan, with minor modifications that have no relation whatsoever either to guarantees or contents of the elections.

All this leads an observer of the U.S. positions to believe that these positions, which may be described as "positive," are meant to cover up the Israeli positions and distract attention from them.

The United States, which is historically famous for its blind bias in favor of Israel, has found itself besieged from the political and propaganda viewpoints. The intifadah [uprising] in the occupied territories has created a new reality which neither Washington nor anyone else can ignore. The Palestinian peace initiative put forward by the PLO in the international arena has created a great impasse for the United States, particularly as the initiative responded to a large extent to most of the traditional U.S. conditions.

The U.S. stance regarding the Israeli plan to hold elections in the occupied territories has raised large questions regarding the seriousness of the U.S. positions.

While Washington is aware that the most elementary requirement for holding elections is to provide a climate of freedom and democracy, we find that despite this conviction, it now supports the holding of elections in a climate in which neither freedom nor democracy is

available. The question posed to Washington is: Can freedom and democracy be provided under occupation? If the answer is no, which it should be, then how does the United States deviate from its deep-rooted traditions and support the holding of elections divorced from freedom and democracy?

The procrastination in the U.S. political stance is only equaled by the propaganda stance, which is playing a game of diverting attention from the Palestinian problem and from Israeli practices in the occupied land. At a time when U.S. propaganda spends many hours elaborating on Ahmad Jibril and "Palestinian terrorism," we do not find it mentioning anything about Shamir's blatant statements, his challenge to the will of the international community, and his government's practices against Palestinians in the occupied land.

All these discrepancies as well as the double standard that Washington employs regarding the Palestinian problem does not qualify it to play an effective role in pressuring Israel, nor in translating its slogans in which Washington alleges its concern to find a just and comprehensive solution to the crisis.

Without pressuring Israel, imposing sanctions against it, and setting a timetable for Israeli withdrawal from Palestinian lands, U.S. positions will remain, irrespective of how much Washington tries to conceal them, like a polished exterior hiding beneath it a terrifying shape that is in collusion with Israeli violence.

'Cool' Reaction in Jerusalem to Egyptian Protest

TA2106130589 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 21 Jun 89 pp A1, 2

[Report by Ilan Bakhar]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Jerusalem took a somewhat cool view of the Egyptian criticism of Israel's conduct in the territories, emphasizing that it came on the very day of the burial of a Jewish settler who had been stabbed to death in the back: "Egypt should understand that Israel is facing a war, and our activity is aimed at defending the citizens of Israel and ending the violence against us. Palestinians in the territories want to shed Jewish blood, and Israel will not remain passive in the face of this," political sources said.

Poland To Resume Ties 'Within Next Few Months'

JN2006172989 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 19 Jun 89 p 1

[Text] Moscow, AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM—High ranking Soviet sources revealed to AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM that Poland will resume its full diplomatic relations with Israel within the next few months. These sources said that a high ranking Polish diplomat arrived in Israel last Friday evening [16 June] on a secret 1-week visit during which he will meet with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Foreign Minister Moshe Arens. Also during this week, a building will be rented in Tel Aviv to be used as headquarters for the Polish Embassy.

Treasury Announces Devaluation of Shekel

TA2206165389 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] The finance minister and the governor of the Bank of Israel have decided to devalue the shekel compared to the currency basket. Our economic affairs correspondent Me'ir Einstein reports that the precise rate of devaluation will be determined only tomorrow when the Bank of Israel publishes the official rates of exchange. Our correspondent points out that the devaluation rate will be at least 1.2 percent.

It was decided today that as of tomorrow the official rate of exchange for the currency basket will be 2.649 shekels—4.4 percent higher than today's official rate of exchange. According to this decision, the Bank of Israel will be able to devalue or revalue the shekel within a range of .3 percent [Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 1600 GMT on 22 June reported that the range will be 3 percent] above or below the new official rate of exchange. It was also decided that the insurance rate for the shekel for exporters on the added value will be lowered by 1 percent to the level of 9 percent. The Treasury and the Bank of Israel claim that these decisions are aimed at encouraging exports and economic activity.

Indictments Filed; Gaza Activists Imprisoned

TA2106175389 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] In the past 2 days, indictments against 52 residents of the Gaza Strip were filed at the Gaza Military Court. They are charged with membership in the Fatah popular committees, inciting, issuing threats, erecting roadblocks, throwing rocks and firebombs, and more.

Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that yesterday five youths, residents of Gaza, were given 10- to 15-month prison terms after they confessed to being members of the Islamic Jihad.

The Ramallah Military Court today issued a subpoena against a reserve soldier from Kefar Sava who failed to testify in the trial of Arab residents who are suspected of rioting. Our correspondent Arye Gus notes that the decision indicates an increase in the severity of the steps taken by the courts against soldiers and civilians who fail to give testimony when required to. The soldier was released on a 5,000 shekels bail.

Arab Youth Killed by Army in West Bank

TA2206064489 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0630 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] A resident of the village of Silwad near Ramallah was killed by army fire this morning in the course of an initiated operation. According to the report we received, the youth did not obey the soldiers' order to stop and was then shot dead. His name is 'Abd-al-Ra'uf Muhammad and he is 22 years old.

Update on 21 Jun Incidents in Territories

TA2206104189 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 22 Jun 89 p 12

[Report by Mikhal Sela']

[Text] The violence between soldiers and Palestinians in the territories continued yesterday, as in recent days, without any fatalities. But in Nabulus another "collaborator" was shot dead.

Troops reportedly shot and wounded 14 Palestinians in the Gaza Strip, according to Palestinian sources, and four in the West Bank, according to the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman.

The spate of intensive raids by security forces in the past 10 days has resulted in hundreds of arrests, according to Palestinian sources. The number of detainees now stands at some 13,000 to 14,000, according to well-informed sources.

The alleged collaborator, Hasan Baqir, 55, a taxi driver from the village of Qirah, south of Nabulus, was fatally shot yesterday morning. The bullets that killed Baqir were 9mm, military sources said, like those in the June 8 murder of Sahil Sawalihi.

Security forces yesterday imposed a curfew on Bani Na'im, near Qiryat Arba', and raided the village with police and tax collectors. Tax delinquents were forced to pay on the spot. Police checked car licences and vehicle maintenance, military sources said.

In a tax-raid on the gold market in Tulkarm, 10 gold dealers were taken to military headquarters, where they had to pay NIS [new Israeli shekels] 7,000-14,000. All shops in town were closed in protest. At least 10 Palestinians were arrested yesterday in Tulkarm.

After a raid on Hablah, near Qalqilyah, during which the security forces arrested at least 15 Palestinians, villagers set fire to a shop owned by Rashad Shahwan, whom they suspected of serving as an informer for the authorities.

In the second raid in a week on Bayta, security forces arrested Taysir Khwarash—the man whom settler Romem Aldubi shot and seriously wounded on April 6, 1988—according to Palestinian sources. One person was slightly wounded.

The focus of yesterday's clashes in the Gaza Strip was the Shati' refugee camp, where troops shot and wounded nine Palestinians, according to Palestinian sources. An IDF spokesman reported one girl wounded.

Three other persons were wounded in the town of Gaza, and one in al-Mughazi. One person in al-Nusayrat required hospital treatment after being severly beaten. "Operation Plastic Card" was launched yesterday in Dayr al-Balah. Palestinians reported that they were forced to comply, notwithstanding the fact that the commander of the operation told reporters 10 days ago that the cards were a matter of choice.

30 Arabs Arrested; 3 Houses Sealed in West Bank

TA2206104389 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] A Voice of Israel reporter says that 30 residents of Silwad have been arrested in connection with the throwing of firebombs and stones along the main Ramallah-Nabulus highway. The raid on the village of Silwad is part of wide-scale activities by the army in recent weeks in Judaea and Samaria.

Security forces this morning sealed three houses, one in al-Zahiriyah and two in Hebron. The occupants of the houses are suspected of involvement in several firebomb incidents.

Casualty Toll in Territories Updated 19 Jun

TA2106131989 Tel Aviv HA'OLAM HAZE in Hebrew 21 Jun 89 p 6

[Report by Orit Zrubavel]

[Text] On Monday, 19 June, the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman reported 409 Palestinian dead in the occupied territories. This figure includes only those who died as a result of IDF gunfire.

According to the HA'OLAM HAZE count, the number of dead Palestinians exceeds 528.

In contrast, Palestinian sources report 649 deaths, according to the following breakdown:
—454 died of IDF soldiers' shots.
—77 died as a result of gas inhalation.
—47 died as a result of beating and electrocution.
—71 died due to other reasons.

King Husayn Tours Irbid Governorate 21 Jun

JN2106194489 Amman Television Service in English 1900 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] His majesty the king toured the Governorate of Irbid today to look after his people and their needs. Thousands of the governorate's citizens lined the streets and routes through which his majesty's motorcade passed to cheer and salute his majesty and to express their absolute loyalty to the Hashemite throne.

The leader was saluted by folklore dances at al-Nu'ayyimah town as part of the warm welcome given to his majesty across the area. Residents of the 'Azmi al-Mufti refugee camp took part in the welcoming celebrations. They hailed his majesty the king's ceaseless efforts in promoting the cause of the Palestinian people.

Later at Al-Yarmuk University his majesty met with representatives of the private and public sectors of the governorate where a number of speakers welcomed his majesty and voiced their happiness for his presence amongst them. They also voiced their total unequivocal loyalty to the Hashemite throne and to the principles of the Great Arab Revolt.

His majesty also visited the areas of Huwwarah, Bushra, and al-Ramtha where he received a resounding ovation. Citizens there asserted that the difficult economic conditions facing Jordan will only enhance its people's dedication to the service of their homeland.

CBJ Governor on Economy, Arab Monetary Fund Loan

JN1806120089 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 18 Jun 89 p 1

[Text] Tunis (PETRA)—Jordan is currently moving toward restoring stability to its currency and attaining full confidence in its national economy at home and abroad in accordance with the directives of His Majesty King Husayn, Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) Governor Muhammad Sa'id al-Nabulsi said Saturday. "Jordan will continue its consultations with international banks and institutions to carry out measures the CBJ had adopted on the internal and external levels," Al-Nabulsi said in a statement he made Saturday in Tunis, where a committee comprising the governors of the central banks in Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Tunisia as well as assistant secretary general for economic affairs at the Arab League and the president of the Arab Monetary Fund (AMF) is meeting. Al-Nabulsi added that Jordan was confident that it will surmount the economic and financial difficulties it is facing. He also expressed appreciation to Arab financial institutions for extending aid to Jordan with particular reference to the AMF initiative to grant a $20 million loan to Jordan. Al-Nabulsi said the committee members would go to Brussels Sunday to hold talks with European Community (EC). A detailed report on the contacts with the European side will be presented to the 47th session of the Arab Economic and Social Council due to convene in Tunis in September.

King Husayn Receives Trade Union Leaders

JN1906071489 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 19 Jun 89 p 1

[Text] Amman (PETRA)—His Majesty King Husayn Sunday called for intensive and constructive dialogue and cooperation and stressed the need for mobilising all efforts to best serve the interests of citizens and achieve the country's aspirations.

Addressing a delegation from the General Federation of Jordanian Trade Unions, who called at the Royal Court Sunday, King Husayn praised the efforts of the labour sector in the development process and highlighted the importance of preparing the Jordanian citizens to contribute to the development and advancement of the country. The King noted that development, building, work and awareness are "our weapon" to counter the challenges facing us. King Husayn spoke of the need for reviewing and changing some of the prevailing trends in the concept of work, with a view to giving more value to work and workers and to provide the skilled labour force. The King reviewed with the delegation members the situations which Jordan and the Arab region have faced and stressed Jordan's principled stand which refuses any compromise on Arab rights, and is topped by the Palestine question, the support for Iraq and achieving Arab solidarity.

The Federation's Secretary General Samir Qardan conveyed the greetings and best wishes of the labour sector to King Husayn and renewed allegiance to the leader, who has devoted himself to serving the Arab causes and to build Jordan.

Qardan reviewed King Husayn's efforts to achieve Arab solidarity and stressed Jordan's resolve to face these challenges with determination.

The meeting was attended by Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Ibn-Shakir, Royal Court Chief Dhuqan al-Hindawi, and Labour Minister Jamal al-Budur.

Gunmen Abduct Supplies Official in W. Beirut

NC2106091889 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] According to a security source, four gunmen riding in an orange van kidnapped Rashid al-Bisat, an official of the Supplies Committee, this morning after ordering him out of his car. He was riding with another official. The incident took place near the gendarmarie police station in the Verdun area [West Beirut] where Al-Bisat resides.

Group Claims Abduction

NC2206054189 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 0430 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] A hitherto unknown organization calling itself the Father of the Poor [abu al-fuqara'] has claimed responsibility for the abduction yesterday of Eng Raji al-Bisat, director of the Cereal and Beetroot Department. In a statement sent to a Western news agency in Beirut, the organization threatened to punish all the Lebanese who squander the livelihood of the poor.

More on 21 Jun Israeli Raids, Overflights

Israeli Fly Over Beirut

NC2106083489 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 21 Jun 89

[Text] Israeli warplanes broke the sound barrier over the capital at 1107 today. The Israeli warplanes had earlier reconnoitered the Lebanese airspace around 0900.

Helicopters Fly Over Al-Na'imah

NC2106141189 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1350 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] A little after 1400 today, Israeli helicopters flew over the al-Na'imah coast where a number of gunboats were spotted. Israeli aircraft again flew over the area at approximately 1545.

Israeli 'Warships' off Al-Damur

NC2106110589 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1050 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] We have just been informed that the Israeli raids which began at 1220 are continuing. Israeli warplanes launched five raids against positions of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] on Tilal al-Na'imah and al-Damur. It has been reported that the raiding planes dropped timed missiles and that Israeli warships off al-Damur coast were watching the bombing operation.

It has been further reported that Israeli helicopters have been circling the bombed area for the last 10 minutes. PFLP sources considered it likely that the Israeli aircraft might carry out a landing operation in the area. According to security sources, the planes are encountering ground resistance. In the meantime, the nationalist and Islamic forces, and the Palestinian groups have been put on maximum alert as a precaution against any possible landing operation by the Israeli enemy.

PFLP-GC Returns Fire

JN2106113889 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1110 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] Brother strugglers, we have just received the following: Three Zionist warplane formations carried out three raids on the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command [PFLP-GC] positions in Tilal al-Na'imah and al-Damur at noon today. The first was at 1220, the second at 1305, and the third at 1323. These American Zionist criminal raids were aimed at the PFLP-GC positions of struggle as well as the houses of innocent Lebanese and Palestinian people.

Al-Quds radio correspondent in southern Lebanon said the Lebanese coast off al-Damur and al-Na'imah is witnessing Zionist gunboat activity in a bid to approach the area and support the aircraft in this criminal aggression. The enemy warplanes dropped missiles and time bombs on the targetted areas and on fields and streets. The PFLP-GC fighters, as well as the fighters of the national Lebanese movement, confronted this brutal aggression with antiaircraft fire and all military defense equipment, including the Soviet SAM missiles. This confrontaion had its decisive effect in repulsing aggression and foiling its military results.

10 Wounded in Israeli Raids

NC2106115989 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] The new aggressive raid is the second by Israeli warplanes against targets on the mountain and the fourth against all Lebanon in a week. Today's targets were the positions of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command [PFLP-GC] in Tilal al-Na'imah and Tilal Bi'wrta. Four planes carried out the raid between 1225 and 1300. They dropped timed missiles which exploded successively and wounded about 10 persons. Several fires broke out.

A PFLP spokemsna told AFP that the raid claimed some victims but he did not give the number.

The hostile planes continued to circle the area and carry out mock raids. Heavy bursts of antiaircraft fire hindered the movement of the raiding planes.

PFLP-GC Statement on Raids

JN2106180189 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio
in Arabic 1615 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] A military source of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command [PFLP-GC] has stated the following:

The line of the PFLP-GC is uncompromising and firm. The PFLP-GC has created a pioneering role in confronting the Zionist enemy and its agents and fighting all types of treason and agentry. The enemy failed in its previous raids on our bases—a failure which occurred many times, the most obvious of which was last year when the enemy dispatched commandos and booby-trapped police dogs to the al-Na'imah area and al-Damur hills. The enemy did not learn from its failures. For the aforementioned reasons, the enemy has returned to learn its lesson at the hands of our fighters today.

The enemy Phantom and Skyhawk fighter planes have carried out the longest raid in the history of the struggle with the enemy. The raid lasted for 105 minutes from 1215 to 1400 against PFLP-GC bases in the al-Na'imah and al-Damur areas in addition to a gunboat attack with a heavy helicopter cover along the coastal strip in the area. The aim was to mount a commando landing operation which was foiled by our fighters who confronted the planes with all their weapons, prevented the enemy from realizing its aims, and foiled the enemy landing operation. As usual when fighting with those who have faith in their people and nation, the enemy withdrew in humiliation and frustration.

As for our losses, one of our fighters was martyred while trying to save some civilians who were hit in enemy bombing. Six others were slightly wounded. The PFLP-GC suffered no material damage. However, the bombs hit civilian homes in the area and nearby factories.

The PFLP-GC source said: The PFLP-GC is aware of the enemy's rabidness and spite. This is confirmed by observers who estimate that the enemy released 100 heavy missiles and that the enemy force was composed of 9 formations carrying out 9 raids. While aware of this, the PFLP-GC affirms to our steadfast people in the occupied territory and to our Palestinian Arab masses in the diaspora that it will remain true to its pledges and will adhere to armed struggle as a path to Palestine, the whole of Palestine.
[Signed] The PFLP-GC

Israeli Planes Fly Over Sidon 22 Jun

NC2206094589 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] Israeli warplanes reconnoitered armed positions during their flight over Sidon and the Palestinian camps this morning.

Syrians Fire 50 Shells at Jubayl, Kasrawan

NC2106170489 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] Syrian artillery fired more than 50 shells at the Jubayl and Kasrawan coasts this evening.

The Syrians aggravated the situation on the Beirut confrontation lines at 1830 today. Clashes took place during which shells hit the environs of al-Ashrafiyah.

Palestinian Delegation To Visit in Next Few Days
NC2206110889 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1000 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] Damascus, 22 Jun (MENA)—A responsible political source has stated that a high-level Palestinian delegation will arrive in Damascus in the next few days on an official visit to Syria.

In a statement to MENA, the source said that the Palestinian delegation will strive to eliminate the points of differences with Syria. It will also discuss coordination and cooperation on the Palestinian issue and on the ongoing efforts to find a just and comprehensive solution to it. Moreover, it will discuss ways of supporting the intifadah [uprising] in the occupied territories and all political issues of interest to the Arab world.

Al-Shar' on Not Supplying Arms to W. Beirut
JN2106141689 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic
20 Jun 89 pp 1, 17

[By Raja Talib]

[Text] Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' has announced that the efforts of the higher three-member committee tasked with resolving the Lebanese crisis are currently focusing on the implementation of the security portion of the committee's plan and solution mechanism.

In an exclusive statement to AL-WATAN following the conclusion of the opening session of the Standing Commission on Afro-Arab Cooperation, al-Shar' pointed out that the security portion of the higher three-member committee's plan means a cease-fire, lifting blockades, opening the crossings, and monitoring ships to prevent the arrival of arms shipments to the warring Lebanese factions.

Al-Shar' added that the committee's plan provides, after implementing the security portion, for initiating political steps related to political reforms, rebuilding the constitutional institutions, and electing a president for the republic pursuant to the Casablanca summit resolutions on Lebanon.

Al-Shar' said that Syria affirmed to the three-member committee its adherence to this resolution and also to this mechanism, if it were to be implemented as agreed upon. He indicated that Syria's decision not to provide arms to the militias of West Beirut falls within the framework of its adherence to the security portion of the three-member committee's plan which calls for searching ships and for preventing them from bringing weapons to the warring Lebanese forces.

On whether the three-member committee will meet in Damascus soon, al-Shar' said that this is very likely to happen. He added: We will provide all forms of support for the three-member committee to enable it to approximate the views of the warring Lebanese factions.

As regards the normalization of Syrian-PLO ties and on whether a date has been fixed for a visit by a Palestinian delegation to Damascus, al-Shar' pointed out that it was agreed during the meeting held in Casablanca between President al-Asad and leader 'Arafat that the dialogue will be continued. However, he added that no date has so far been fixed for a visit by a Palestinian delegation to Damascus. On whether Syria will take any political measures designed to normalize Syrian-Egyptian ties, the Syrian foreign minister said: "Things have so far been proceeding satisfactorily. However, we have not yet discussed the issue of resuming diplomatic relations with Egypt."

The Syrian minister declined to give any further explanations.

Information Minister on Ties With Egypt
NC2106155889 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1435 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] Damascus, 21 Jun (MENA)—Syrian Information Minister Muhammad Salman has affirmed that the Egyptian and Syrian peoples are linked by strong and fraternal ties. He added that Syria's leadership and people appreciate Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and praise his patriotic attitude toward the causes of the Arab nation, which he defends with sincerity, faithfulness, and dedication.

In statements he made today to the Egyptian press team covering the meetings of the 17th session of the Arab Lawyers Union which are currently taking place here, Salman stressed that the Camp David accords have not prevented President Mubarak and the Egyptian people from playing their pioneer pan-Arab role vis-a-vis the Arab nation.

Regarding the resumption of Egyptian-Syrian relations, the Syrian minister said the Syrian-Egyptian rapprochement that took place during the Casablanca summit is making steady progress. The restoration of relations between the two countries is inevitable, but some official actions in accordance with certain procedures must be carried out before the restoration of relations can be announced, he added.

He added that Syria is very pleased and optimistic over Egypt's return to the Arab League. It views this matter as a positive step toward enhancing the standing of the Arab nation and unifying Arab positions in the face of the dangers threatening this nation. He stressed that Syria has stopped all statements that might be construed

as critical of the Egyptian leadership or of the views which are appreciated by the Egyptian people in general and the Syrian people in particular.

The Syrian information minister added that President Hafiz al-Asad has repeatedly said, from the first days of President Mubarak's assumption of power, that he knows Mubarak well as a man who is dedicated to his country and renowned for his patriotic record.

The Syrian minister emphasized Syria's support for the Casablanca summit decisions on the Lebanese issue, noting that the idea of setting up a tripartite committee to resolve the crisis was originally proposed by President al-Asad. He added that once the Israelis leave Lebanon Syria will be ready to do so, too. A president will then be elected who will be committed to reforms and who will form a national government able to achieve justice for the Lebanese people.

The Syrian information minister justified the permission granted to Iranians to enter Lebanon by saying: They have entered Lebanon to carry out fedayeen operations against Israel.

Regarding an international conference for peace in the Middle East, he said Syria would be happy to take part in such a conference, which, he added, must be attended by Syria, Jordan, Palestine, Egypt, and Lebanon. Its resolutions must be binding, he asserted.

The Syrian minister said that Syria rejects the Israeli proposal that the parties to the international conference should meet together with all the five major states, after which separate agreements would be concluded with each country.

Khaddam, Salman Receive Egyptian Journalists

JN2206073089 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam last night received the Egyptian journalists who are in Damascus to attend the 17th General Congress of the Arab Lawyers Union [ALU].

During the meeting, the vice president spoke about historic and fraternal relations between the two fraternal countries, Syria and Egypt, and their historical role in protecting the Arab nation from foreign threats. The vice president answered a number of questions related to relations between the two countries, the Arab situation, the Arab-Israeli conflict, and the international situation.

Earlier yesterday, Information Minister Muhammad Salman received the journalists accompanying the delegation of the Egyptian Lawyers Association to the ALU's 17th congress.

After speaking about fraternal relations between the two countries, Egypt and Syria, and about the Syrian people's pride in and appreciation of these relations, the minister answered the Egyptian journalists' questions and explained the Syrian stands toward Arab issues.

Khaddam on Ties With Egypt, Arab Issues

NC2206110189 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0835 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] Damascus, 22 Jun (MENA)—Syrian Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam has asserted that there are strong long-standing relations between Egypt and Syria, noting that the two countries have been shouldering the burden of confrontation and defense of the Arab nation during the various crises and battles it has faced.

At a news conference last night with the Egyptian journalists in Damascus to attend the 17th Congress of the Arab Lawyers Union, 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam pointed out that Syria is closely following the improvement in Egyptian-Syrian relations since the meeting between Presidents Mubarak and al-Asad during the Casablanca summit. He added that Syria will work to restore official relations between the two countries, although these relations have never been severed on the popular level.

The Syrian vice president went on to say that there is no Arab state that can assume Egypt's leading position in terms of importance to the Arab world. He lauded the great pan-Arab role played by President Mubarak in service of Arab issues. He added: We know him very well, as well as his nationalist stands and his vast Arab vision.

In his news conference, the Syrian vice president said that the efforts of the two countries will be intensified in the wake of the restoration of relations, which will greatly help in solving fateful pan-Arab problems, the foremost being the Palestinian issue. 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam underlined the need for the Arab League to patch up the differences between certain Arab countries and to end all the peripheral differences between the Arab countries. He said that the Arab governments, particularly Syria, should organize a joint Arab meeting to contain Arab differences and to organize joint Arab action.

The Syrian vice president said that the current dispute between Syria and Iraq is not new but is, rather, a longstanding dispute. However, it is possible to find a solution to this dispute, he added. He noted that Syria keeps the door open for solutions to any existing problems with any Arab state.

Khaddam expressed the hope that the tripartite committee which was formed by the Arab summit in Casablanca will manage to solve the Lebanese crisis. He stressed the importance of working out a solution and of achieving accord among the Lebanese.

The Syrian vice president reiterated that Syria accepts an international conference for peace in the Middle East with the participation of all parties concerned. However, he noted that the problem is that the United States and Israel have not so far declared their agreement to participate in this conference.

Khaddam pointed out that Syria refuses to sign any bilateral treaties with Israel. He declared Syria's welcome of the formation of the Arab Cooperation Council, stressing that his country supports every unity step and supports solidarity in the Arab world. He pointed in this regard to the confederation of Arab republics between Egypt, Syria, and Libya, which played a major role in scoring victories during the glorious [1973] war. He affirmed that Syria endeavors to support the maintenance of peace and the cessation of the Iraq-Iran war. He said that this war created strategic changes in the area in Israel's favor.

Khaddam said that the Syrian opposition abroad is extremely weak and has no roots inside Syria. However, he added that there is an opposition inside Syria represented in the legitimate political parties and persuasions which carry out their legitimate political activities.

Ba'th Leader Meets Egyptian Solidarity Official

JN2106072089 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 20 Jun 89

[Text] Comrade Dr Sulayman Qaddah, assistant regional secretary of the Ba'th Party, received Ahmad Hamrush, chairman of the Egyptian committee for Afro-Asian solidarity, this afternoon. During the meeting, they reviewed issues of interest to the two committees [as heard] to strengthen the pan-Arab and national position of our Arab nation as well its central issue, the Palestine question. They also stressed the need to activate the work of the two committees within the organizational framework in order to promote its action and implement its programs.

Qaddah also explained our country's principled, pan-Arab, and firm position, under the leadership of our great party and its Secretary General struggler Hafiz al-Asad, in the face of the fateful challenges against the Arab nation. He also stressed the importance of brotherly and militant relations between the two countries—relations which epitomize victory against all forms of aggression and which have helped our Arab nation face challenges over the years.

Hamrush also expressed his pride in our people's firm pan-Arab and national position in the face of the imperialist and Zionist challenges.

Afghanistan

Wakil Calls for U.S. Envoy To Discuss Photographer

BK2106141689 Hong Kong AFP in English 1408 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] Kabul, June 21 (AFP)—Afghan Foreign Minister 'Abdul Wakil said Wednesday [21 June] his government had told the U.S. State Department to send an envoy to Kabul to secure the release of freelance U.S. photographer Tony O'Brien, captured along with a group of mujahidin.

The U.S. Embassy in Islamabad said Tuesday that photographer Tony O'Brien had been arrested by Afghan soldiers on June 14 near Kabul.

While a Kabul Government spokesman Tuesday did not identify the photographer, Mr. Wakil said Wednesday the man arrested was Mr. O'Brien.

"The State Department yesterday requested our embassy in Washington for information and demanded his release. We communicated to them that if they were interested they should send a representative here and negotiate his freedom," Mr. Wakil said.

Asked if Mr. O'Brien was being held as a "political pawn" or if the presence of a State Department official in Kabul was a pre-condition for his release, Mr. Wakil replied: "We have placed no pre-conditions."

"It all depends on the Americans how they are going to act," Mr. Wakil said adding that Mr. O'Brien had "entered the country illegally with an active armed extremist group in Afghanistan," a reference to the mujahidin.

"We are going to act in a positive manner," he said adding that his government had not simply expelled Mr. O'Brien because his case was still under investigation.

The U.S. Government along with other Western countries, Indonesia, Japan and Iraq pulled their embassies out of Kabul a few days before the Soviet troop withdrawal on February 15, citing security concerns. They have all stayed away and the Soviet-backed government has appealed for their return, saying that their security fears were unjustified.

Mr. Wakil said the International Union of Journalists had also sent a telegram to President Najibullah demanding the release of Mr. O'Brien. "They made it sound as if we limited conditions for journalists, that is not true," Mr. Wakil said.

On Tuesday, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said the photographer was in good health but was being held in Kabul, where he was under investigation. He added that no charges had formally been made against him and that his treatment would be humane.

The spokesman emphasized that some 1,200 foreign journalists had been granted visas to Afghanistan in the past year, even those who were known to have entered the country without visas with mujahidin groups coming from Pakistan or Iran.

Mr. O'Brien, said to be about 40 years old, was living in Peshawar, Pakistan, where mujahidin groups are based, and working as a freelance photographer for various publications, mainly American.

Government Statement Issued

LD2106173289 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Statement issued by BAKHTAR on 21 June]

[Text] According to a report by the security authorities of the Republic of Afghanistan, U.S. citizen Tony O'Brien, who had illegaly entered the territory of the Republic of Afghanistan, was captured on 8 June near Kabul. A preliminary investigation reveals that he secretly entered Wardak Province with one of the armed groups opposing the Republic of Afghanistan.

Tony O'Brien describes himself as a news photographer for a private U.S. information company called (Winthrop). He wanted to take photographs of airport, military installations, and security posts in Kabul. Tony O'Brien is in detention.

The U.S. State Department recently contracted the Republic of Afghanistan through diplomatic channels and requested that he should be pardoned and released from detention. BAKHTAR is authorized to state that the government of the Republic of Afghanistan has no opposition in principle to the release of the aforementioned citizen of that country. However, it deems it necessary that a special representative of U.S. President George Bush be sent to Kabul to establish the real identity of the detained person and to conduct talks and negotiations on the procedure for the release of the detained citizen of that country with the relevant authorities of the Republic of Afghanistan.

Wakil Departs for Netherlands Nonaligned Meeting

LD2106174389 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] Afghan Foreign Minister 'Abdul Wakil left Kabul this afternoon for The Netherlands, at the head of a delegation to take part in the work of the nonaligned countries' foreign ministers discussing peace and international law, which will be convened in the Netherlands from 26-30 June.

The foreign minister was seen off at Kabul Airport by Sulayman La'eq, minister of border affairs; Muhammad Faruq Karmand, deputy minister of foreign affairs; and Y. Vorontsov, USSR ambassador and extraordinary representative in Kabul.

Mujahidin Shoot Down 2 Regime Planes

BK2106140089 Hong Kong AFP in English 1346 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] Islamabad, June 21 (AFP)—The mujahidin have shot down an Afghan Government reconnaissance plane in southern Helmand Province and a jet in the northern province of Balkh, resistance-run news agencies said Wednesday [21 June].

The AFGHAN ISLAMIC PRESS (AIP) said the reconnaissance plane, an Antonov-32, was hit Sunday by a missile fired by the local commander of the Hezb-e Eslami resistance faction led by Yunis Khalis.

The plane crashed before it could land at the Lashkargah base in the region, the agency said, adding it was not clear how many people were aboard.

The AFGHAN NEWS AGENCY (ANA) confirmed the crash and said the plane's 42 passengers were either killed or wounded in the attack.

ANA also said the mujahidin Saturday had shot down an Afghan jet in Shadian, northern Balkh Province, adding that the pilot bailed out and was captured alive.

42 People Reportedly Killed

BK2106143889 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1400 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] According to reports, a transport plane of the Kabul regime has crashed, killing 42 people on board, including the crew. Reports say that it is not clear whether the transport plane crashed at the Lashkar Gah airfield inside Afghanistan due to some technical fault or was shot down by Afghan mujahidin.

Kabul Details Military Situation 21 Jun

LD2106202189 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] The country's courageous Armed Forces, guardians of the country's national sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity, yesterday during retaliatory actions inflicted crushing blows on the concentration points of the extremists, protected by Pakistan, and destroyed a large number of the enemy's weapons and ammunition.

A competent Armed Forces source reported to the military section of BAKHTAR that the joint enemy forces who were defeated on the battle field, have shelled from long distance the security posts and residential regions of the city of Jalalabad, Behsud and Hada regions, martyring 7 inhabitants and injuring 11 persons including 2 members of the Armed Forces. As a result of these shellings two houses, one mosque, and one shop were also destroyed.

The source added that the courageous units and subunits, stationed in Nangarhar Province, who courageously repulsed enemy attacks, have crushed a number of [word indistinct] enemy by retaliatory blows including a number of [word indistinct] enemy by retaliatory blows including a number of Pakistani militarists and Saudi Wahhabi armed mercenaries. Moreover, 57 of the enemy were injured; one BM-12, three missile units, two recoilless guns, 13 rocket launchers, three DShK's, one communications set, and three enemy arms depots were also destroyed.

The source added that as a result of shellings by the extremist groups attached to Pakistan, two inhabitants in the surroundings of Paktia Province, and one member of the Armed Forces and a child in Khowst Major District were injured. As a result of artillery fire by the Armed Forces in Khowst Major District, 20 robbers were killed and eight people wounded.

According to another report the extremist—who resort to any kind of act—yesterday fired heavy weapons on security posts and residential areas of the city of Herat, as a result of which two members of the Armed Forces and three local people were wounded. As a result of clearing-up and search operations in the province many machineguns, an assortment of infantry weapons, two wireless sets, and five ammunition boxes belonging to the extremists were captured.

Also, heavy weapons fire by extremist associated with Pakistan martyred four residents in Konduz Province and injured 12 people.

According to another report, as a result of the Armed Forces search and clearing-up operations in the district of Qargha and the area of [placename indistinct] in Laghman Province 11 extremists who accompanied a convoy of arms and ammunition were crushed and 14 others were wounded and the convoy was wiped out. One enemy arms and ammunition deport was also completely destroyed.

The situation in the other provinces and areas of the country is generally calm. Most of the highways and communications lines are open to traffic.

Mujahidin Capture Camp, Shell Presidential Palace

BK2206025089 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] In Afghanistan, the mujahidin are reported to have captured a Kabul regime military camp near Baghlan city. The Kabul troops fled after putting up little resistance, carrying with them eight dead bodies and several wounded soldiers to Baghlan garrison.

The mujahidin also launched rocket attacks on the presidential palace in Kabul, killing seven security guards. They continued heavy shelling of Qandahar Airport, killing or wounding 50 Kabul regime soldiers.

Meanwhile, Radio Kabul has confirmed that the mujahidin have carried out attacks on Jalalabad and Qandahar.

Notes on Pakistani Violations Handed to UN Group

LD1406080689 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0424 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] Kabul, June 13, BAKHTAR—Notes number 570 to 582 [figures as received] of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan on violations by Pakistan of the provisions of the Geneva accords were handed over to the office of the UN Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan (UNGOMAP) here on Monday.

Information on 4 instances of Pakistani violations of the Geneva accords including existence of extremists military training camps in the Pakistani territory, dispatching of military advisors and militias side by side the extremists inside the Republic of Afghanistan for subversive activities and furnishing extremists with lethal arms including ground to ground rockets are given to the mission.

The notices ask UNGOMAP that as per Para 7, Document Number 4 of the Geneva accords assess the violations and convey results to the concerned sides immediately.

Notes 584-586

LD1506082989 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0415 GMT 15 Jun 89

[Text] Kabul, June 14, BAKHTAR—Notes Number 584 to 586 of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan on 19 flagrant instances of violations of the Pakistani military authorities of Article 2, Document Number 1 of the Geneva accords were handed over to the office of the UN Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan (UNGOMAP) here on Tuesday.

The notes demanded the mission that as per Para 7, Document Number 4 of the Geneva accords assess the violations and convey results of its findings to the concerned sides immediately.

It is worth mentioning here that since the enforcement of the Geneva accords so far 4492 instances of Pakistani violations of the Geneva accords were brought through 586 notes to the attention of the UNGOMAP.

Notes 587-589

LD1606061389 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0418 GMT 16 Jun 89

[Excerpt] Kabul, June 15, BAKHTAR—Notes Number 587-589 of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan on violations by (?Pakistan) from Article 2, Document Number One of the Geneva accords were handed over the the United Nations Good Office Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan (UNGOMAP) here on Wednesday.

The notes demanded the mission that according to Para 7, Document Number 4 of the Geneva accords, assess the said violations and convey results of its findings to the concerned sides as soon as possible. [passage omitted]

India

Gandhi Sends Letter to Sri Lanka's Premadasa

BK2106125489 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Excerpts] The prime minister announced an integrated action program to uplift the weaker sections of society. Addressing a public meeting in Nizamabad in Andhra Pradesh today, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said in the first phase the action plan will be implemented in selected 10,000 villages where scheduled castes and tribes faced acute problems. [passage omitted]

Referring to Andhra Pradesh, the prime minister said the development process in the state has come to a standstill. The law and order situation has also deteriorated. He criticized the state government's decision to give arms to the people for self-protection. This, he said, is shirking of responsibility by the state government. He said it must be the duty of the police to ensure people's protection.

Later, talking to newsmen at Gulbarga helipad in Karnataka, Mr Gandhi disclosed that he has written a letter to the Sri Lankan president, Mr R. Premadasa, regarding the withdrawal of the peacekeeping force from the island. He said clamping of emergency in Sri Lanka is their internal matter. [passage omitted]

Further on Gandhi Letter

BK2106162289 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has written to the Sri Lankan president, Mr Premadasa, reiterating India's stand on the withdrawal of the peacekeeping force [PKF] from the island nation. Disclosing this, an official spokesman told newsmen in New Delhi today that the prime minister's letter was in response to the communication from the Sri Lankan president.

The spokesman said that the Government of India has already reiterated its firm commitment to the phased withdrawal of the PKF as soon as practicable. It stated that further withdrawal will be made in consultation with the Sri Lankan Government when the situation in the Northeastern Province improves further and the devolution of power becomes effective. This process has continued and substantial withdrawals have been made. Recent actions and statements in Sri Lanka by ministers and officials have, however, created an air of uncertainty. The spokesman pointed out that the withdrawal schedule of the PKF can only be decided by mutual consultations and not through unilateral deadlines.

Meanwhile, a Colombo daily, (DENARESA), came out with a critical editorial comparing the law and order situation in areas under the government control and those under the PKF. The daily says that schools are closed in areas under government control. But in areas under the PKF, schools and universities and shops are open and transport is better.

Spokesman on 'Desire' To Negotiate With Nepal

BK2106163089 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr P.V. Narasimha Rao, has expressed India's desire and willingness to hold early negotiations with Nepal on the impasse arising out of the expiry of trade and transit treaty.

An official spokesman said in New Delhi today that in his comprehensive reply to the Nepalese foreign minister, Mr S.K. Upadhyaya's communication of last month, Mr Rao reiterated India's concern for the welfare of Indian citizens in Nepal and India's trade relations with that country. The spokesman said Mr Narasimha Rao also sought clarification from the Nepalese foreign minister about the mixed messages conveyed during the last few weeks. The spokesman said the external affairs minister's reply was extremely cordial and friendly and recalled the age-old good relationship between the two countries.

President Venkataraman Meets New Iranian Envoy

LD2006172189 Tehran IRNA in English 1535 GMT 20 Jun 89

[Text] New Delhi, June 20, IRNA—New Iranian Ambassador Ebrahim Rahimpur presented his credentials to Indian President Ramaswamy Venkataraman today.

"We are aware of the causes and principles believed by the late leader of the Islamic revolution and his decisive support for an independent foreign policy," President Venkataraman said in the meeting.

"We are sure his successor (Ayatollah Khamene'i) will follow a similar policy," he added.

In response Rahimpur said the new leadership of the Islamic Republic is completely aware of the issues of Third World countries especially that of India.

"The Islamic Republic of Iran will continue to tread the path, and materialise the great thoughts of Imam Khomeyni," he added.

Rahimpur, born in the holy city of Qom in 1952, holds a B.A. in economy, and since 1981, has served at the Foreign Ministry, as head of the Fifth Department, director general for Asia and Oceania, and director general for West Asia.

3 People Killed; 'Terrorists' Arrested in Punjab

BK2206092189 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] In Punjab, three persons were shot dead in separate incidents in Amritsar District last night. According to official spokesman one home guard jawan [soldier], one farmer, and a mahant [priest] of a dera [abode] were shot dead by terrorists. Three terrorists were arrested.

Meanwhile, an unidentified terrorist was shot dead in an encounter with security forces near village Mirakut last night. Police recovered one AK-47 rifle, a magazine, and 40 cartridges.

Opposition Leader Denies Party Against Missile Test

BK2206065589 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0435 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] The Janata Dal president, Mr V.P. Singh [former finance minister in Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's cabinet], says his party was never opposed to the Agni missile test. Refuting the criticism of the ruling party in this regard, Mr Singh in a statement claimed that the Janata Dal was also not against the development of the Baliapal [missile] test site in Orissa.

Ministry Announces Power Production Targets

BK2206102389 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] The Center has fixed an ambitious target for producing more than 250 billion units of power during 1989-90. A press release of the Power Ministry issued in New Delhi said this will be about 30 billion units more than the previous year's production. It said more than 182 billion units are expected to be produced by thermal plants and 62 billion units from the hydel [hydroelectric] projects. Nuclear power stations will generate 7 billion units during the current year.

Paper Evaluates Outcome of Bhutto's U.S. Visit

BK2106093289 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 12 Jun 89 p 8

[Editorial: "Benazir's Score in U.S."]

[Text] Ms Benazir Bhutto's first official visit to the US as Pakistan's Prime Minister has been a personal triumph for her. Her reception both at the White House and Capitol Hill was marked by a spontaneous warmth conspicuously absent during the late Gen. Zia's visits to Washington. This is partly because there was already a good deal of sympathy for her in the US as the daughter of a former Prime Minister whose execution had shocked the world and partly because she has held out the promise of building up democracy in a country so long under the military jackboot. It was no more than cool protocol when Gen. Zia did business in the US as the ruler of a country which, in American eyes, was and, of course, still is a strategic ally. The American hosts on the present occasion were apparently happy to welcome an elected Prime Minister instead of a despot. Quite unlike him, Ms Bhutto has also impressed President Bush and the Congressmen with her sophisticated elaboration of her country's policies. It is certain that she has returned home with a greater fund of American goodwill for her.

In terms of more tangible benefits for her country, however, her talks with Mr Bush seem to have been less striking. To take the Afghan problem first, her interest in its early settlement is obvious as it will hasten a return of 3.5 million Afghan refugees in Pakistan. Both her country and the US had already effected a shift in their earlier stance towards this issue and expressed a desire for a "political solution" in view of the military stalemate between the Najibullah regime and the Pakistan-based rebels. In Washington Ms Bhutto has certainly lent a new sense of urgency to a political settlement in Afghanistan. But it is still little more than a vague desire. Mr Bush has reciprocated it but it is far from clear whether he considers it prudent to take up the issue with Moscow straightaway, as the Pakistan Prime Minister desires. Before taking a major step of this kind, he will, for instance, have to decide whether he should give a higher priority to renewing contacts with Tehran in post-Khomeyni Iran.

The other important topic in Ms Bhutto's talks in Washington was, of course, American aid to Pakistan and the related question of Pakistani nuclear intentions. All that she did was to reiterate the familiar assurance that Pakistan had no nuclear device and its nuclear programme was intended only for peaceful purposes. She also revived the old move for a South Asian solution of the nuclear proliferation problem and sought to give it a new shine by proposing a regional test ban treaty. She knows as well as the Americans that this will make no impression on New Delhi. Everyone also knows that her seemingly reassuring observations on the nuclear issue were no more than the annual PR charade meant only to provide the US administration with a legal justification for the continuance of American economic and military aid. From Pakistan's point of view, a welcome development has been Mr Bush's support for the sale of an additional 60 F-16 fighter-bombers to Pakistan announced during Ms Bhutto's visit. But the ground for this had been prepared by Gen. Zia through sustained lobbying. If her visit has made a difference in this regard, it will perhaps be reflected more clearly in quick Congressional approval of the sale, as she expects.

Iran

Velayati Sends Message to Kuwaiti Counterpart

LD2206085389 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] Our country's foreign minister, Mr Veleyati, sent a message to Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister of Kuwait, on bilateral relations. The ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY reports that this message was submitted yesterday to Kuwait's foreign minister by the charge d'affaires of the Islamic Republic of Iran [IRI] in Kuwait. During the meeting with the Kuwaiti foreign minister, our country's charge d'affaires referred to the positive developments in the two countries' relations and pointed out that in order to create the necessary coordination between the two countries it is necessary to establish more contacts between the two sides.

Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad thanked the responsible officials of the IRI for their fraternal approach to the issue of the Kuwaiti patrol boat and expressed the hope that in the near future everyone would witness a greater degree of positive developments in the two countries' relations.

IRNA Says Detained Kuwaitis Released 19 Jun

LD2006145189 Tehran IRNA in English 1430 GMT 20 Jun 89

[Text] Kuwait, June 20, IRNA—Expansion of bilateral ties was discussed in a meeting between Iranian charge d'affaires and Kuwaiti deputy foreign minister here today.

Javad Torkabadi and Sulayman Majid al-Shahin also exchanged views on talks underway at the ministerial meeting of Afro-Arab Cooperation Committee, which opened Monday in this Persian Gulf state.

As a gesture of goodwill, Iran has released six Kuwaiti citizens who had illegally entered Iranian waters on a boat on May 9. They were handed over to a group of Kuwaiti officials in Tehran yesterday.

Velayati Cited on Relations With Arab Countries

LD2206100489 Kuwait KUNA in English 0936 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] Dubai, June 22 (KUNA)—Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati has expressed his country's desire to establish friendly relations based on mutual respect with the Arab countries.

In a statement to "AL-BAYAN" newspaper, published here Thursday, Velayati said that Iran's ties with Arab and Gulf states are improving.

He added, in his first press statement ever following the death of Iran's spiritual leader Ayatollah Khomeyni, that resumption of the Iranian-Saudi relations are conditional on both countries' ability to resolve problems between them.

Velayati admitted that several countries, without naming them, had tried to mediate between his country and the United States but such efforts were rejected by Tehran.

Regarding the Iranian presence in Lebanon, he said that there were a little number of Iranian troops deployed in Lebanon in a consultative mission and they do not engage in fights there.

About relations with the State of Palestine, Velayati said "the Palestine Liberation Organization has an embassy and ambassador in Tehran," adding although "we might not agree with all PLO moves we do firmly support the Palestinian cause."

Papers Note Improving Ties With Soviet Union

LD2106093489 Tehran IRNA in English 0815 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] Tehran, June 21, IRNA—Majlis speaker Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani's visit to Moscow was lead story in all four morning dailies with editorials attributing the improved ties mainly to the new Soviet foreign policy under Mikhail Gorbachev as acknowledged by the late Imam Khomeyni.

Two of the three editorials were more optimistic on the state of relations but one daily stressed that ties could only flourish if based on "equal rights"—something which had "always" been missing.

The English-language KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL said the Soviet leader's efforts to reform the mistakes of his predecessors and improve human rights especially for Muslims helped remove obstacles in the way of better ties.

"With Gorbachev's introduction of 'perestroika' and 'glasnost' this dark cloud (denial of human rights to Soviet Muslims) which has hampered brighter ties with Iran has been lifted," it said.

It recalled that the late leader of the Islamic revolution, while pointing out Gorbachev's bold reforms, had called for greater freedom for Soviet Muslims, particularly in his historic message to the Kremlin leader last January.

Under the title "Iran-Soviet Ties Warming Up", the paper's editorial expected "a more coherent, constructive and lasting relationship" between the two countries which could contribute greatly to regional stability and international peace.

The Persian-language daily ABRAR agreed that a shift in Soviet policy following Gorbachev could be clearly felt and the signs of it were obvious inside and outside the USSR.

What has led to friendship, and subsequently wide economic and political cooperation "is an understanding between both countries on preserving mutual respect, respecting one another's independence and non-interference in internal affairs as well as a balanced relationship... without dominance-seeking motives," it said.

But ABRAR stressed that Iran, ten years after the Islamic revolution, was holding top-level talks with its northern neighbor "with no fear from any superpower... as the most independent country in the world."

The Persian-daily JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI commented that the visit by Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani would have positive impact on expansion of bilateral relations.

"Although the two countries share long common land and sea borders, their relations have never been of a suitable nature. This was such that one could not call relations between the two countries as being on the basis of equal rights," it said.

This had been the case before and after the Russian revolution and from the Iranian point of view bilateral ties "have never been satisfactory, in a suitable condition and with the quality expected."

The paper said undoubtedly the new approach of the Soviet leader played a significant role in preparing grounds for the start of a new phase in bilateral relations.

The paper added that what would inject fresh blood into Iran-Soviet ties in the aftermath of the Majlis speaker's visit is the laying of a new foundation based on equal rights and good neighborliness.

Air Crash Victims To Return to Kabul 22 Jun

LD2106175189 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] Asadollah Keshtmand, charge d'affaires of the Afghan Embassy in Tehran, accompanied by a five-man delegation from the Ministry of Civil Aviation of the

Republic of Afghanistan, yesterday morning arrived in Zabol city to assess the plane crash involving the AN-26 plane belonging to the Ariana Afghan Airline in south east Iran.

The Afghan delegation visited those injured in the crash and held talks with the local authorities and representatives of the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The delegation reported that the medical condition of the injured is satisfactory. The bodies of those who lost their lives and the injured whose medical condition is said to be satisfactory, are due to return to Kabul tomorrow on a special flight of the Ariana Afghan Airline.

Reporting from the scene of the accident, the delegation of the Republic of Afghanistan adds that the authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran have taken full care of the injured persons and have extended full assistance to the Afghan side for the transportation of the injured persons and for investigation of the accident.

Besharati Castigates Turkish Press for Bias

LD2106182189 Tehran IRNA in English 1805 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] Tehran, June 21, IRNA—First Deputy Foreign Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besharati today castigated the Turkish press for publishing "biased reports" on the Islamic Republic.

Besharati took up the issue with Turkish Ambassador Omer Akbel, and warned that "hurting the feelings of 50 million Iranian Muslims can seriously mar mutual relations."

Every country, he said, should respect the rights of Muslims, and added that the Islamic Republic of Iran was ready to mediate between Turkey and Bulgaria to solve their disputes for humanitarian and Islamic reasons.

Akbel expressed hope that Tehran-Ankara relations would improve and further expand in the future.

Military Commander Speaks About Bey'at Maneuvers

LD2106192389 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1700 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Interview with 'Ali Shamkhani, deputy commander of the Armed Forces General Command and minister of the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps, by unidentified correspondent in Bakhtaran, date not given—recorded]

[Text] While the Bey'at maneuvers are underway in Bakhtaran, our colleague in Bakhtaran has interviewed Mr Shamkhani, deputy commander of the Armed Forces General Command in charge of intelligence and operations and minister of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC], to which we draw your attention:

[Begin recording] [Correspondent] Mr Shamkhani, while welcoming you to the western operational zone, first of all I wish to ask you as the deputy of the Armed Forces General Command in charge of intelligence and operations to tell us what your purpose is in visiting the western and northwestern zones, and also how do you view the preparedness of the Armed Forces in this region?

[Shamkhani] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. As you see, from today on the basis of (?instructions) from the esteemed acting commander in chief of the Armed Forces, all the Iranian Armed Forces, both the military forces and the IRGC, have started 3 months of training, exercises, and maneuvers. It has been decreed that in the course of these 3 months, by holding various maneuvers and different trainings and exercises on the basis of definite defense plans, steps will be taken to increase the fighting capability of the Armed Forces. As the responsibility for the supervision and control of the exercises rests on the deputy of the Armed Forces General Command for intelligence and operations, the esteemed acting commander in chief of the Armed Forces issued orders [for him to come here], and on the basis of his orders we have also started our inspection with a well-equipped group.

Thanks to God, everything has progressed very satisfactorily. During the inspections which we have seen, the point which I noticed is that today the great grief due to the demise of his holiness the imam combined with the happiness and joy due to the speedy and befitting choice of His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i has created an anger [as heard] both in our people and in our Armed Forces; and this anger will confront and defeat any movement by any enemy, or mountain of enemies.

Thanks to God, today our Armed Forces both from the point of view of the unity of command, coordination in action, as well preparedness, morale and spiritual condition are in a much better position than in previous months. In addition to this, this is a very good opportunity for improving this position. I am very optimistic about the future and we hope that with the unity and solidarity which today exists behind the fronts and which has foiled all the enemy's vain imaginings, this process will continue, and that relying upon spirituality, the method of action and the leadership which has been bequeathed to us from his holiness the imam, and on the basis of the orders of His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i they can continue to improve their combat readiness and fighting capability. Therefore, this is a very satisfactory and proper situation. We hope that in the second quarter of the year 68 [month starting from 22 June] which is the quarter for technical training and maneuvers these improvements will continue in the best possible way. [end recording]

Prime Minister's Office on Return of War Refugees
LD2006171389 Tehran IRNA in English 1650 GMT 20 Jun 89

[Text] Tehran, June 20, IRNA—By September 22, some 130,000 war refugees will have returned to their homes in Abadan and Khorramshahr, the two cities which bore the brunt of the 8 year Ba'thist aggression.

A statement released by the Prime Ministry's Public Relations Office today said that the return of the refugees would start from June 24.

Rials 24 billion (dlrs 320 million) have been set aside for reconstruction projects and public services in the two southern port cities, it added.

Meanwhile, Abadan's telecommunication centre has reportedly been reconnected with the nationwide network.

Khomeyni Grandsons Injured in War
LD2006094989 Tehran IRNA in English 0900 GMT 20 Jun 89

[Text] Tehran, June 20, IRNA—Two of Imam Khomeyni's grandsons fought in the Iraqi war and both were wounded, it has been revealed for the first time.

The late imam's wife, Batul Saqafi, gave brief details of the two in an interview published in the weekly magazine, JAVANAN (youth).

"Hassan Aqa Khomeyni... was wounded in the Halabjah operation and suffered in a chemical (attack)," she said. She did not describe the extent of the injury but added that Hassan, 17, the son of Hojjat ol-Eslam Ahmad Khomeyni, was now back in school.

Halabjah was the scene of the worst Iraqi chemical attack during the eight-year war, which killed or wounded thousands of Kurdish residents of the northern Iraqi city.

Saqafi said another of the imam's grandsons, the son of his late son Mostafa, had also been wounded in the war. She did not name him.

One of the grandsons fought for 17 months and the other seven months, she said.

The sons of many Iranian officials participated in the war, some were martyred and many others wounded, including one of Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani's son, who was also afflicted by chemical gas in the Halabjah operation.

Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri's son, Sa'id, lost an eye.

News of the imam's wounded grandsons were not published or broadcast "because the imam's family... aim to serve Islam and the Islamic homeland, not to seek fame," the magazine explained.

The interview with the imam's wife was conducted about three months ago but published by JAVANAN for the first time.

Ms Saqafi said she did not imagine one day her husband would rise to become the leader of an Islamic revolution that toppled the most powerful regional regime. "I thought he would one day become a great mojtahed (jurist) but I did not think he would become the leader of the Islamic revolution in Iran," she said frankly.

It was not until five years before the 1979 revolution that she became convinced that he would triumph in his struggle and lay the foundations of an Islamic state in Iran.

In only her second interview since the early years of the revolution, the imam's wife also touched on her personal relationship.

"When we were about to get married, the imam told me: "Look, I'm not a superstitious person but I want you to observe (religious) obligations," Ms Saqafi recalled.

The imam was about 27 when he married 16-year-old Ms Saqafi, the daughter of an ayatollah. She had completed school up to the eighth grade and after their marriage, the imam taught her Arabic and fiqh (jurisprudence) for another eight years which later enabled her to study difficult Arabic texts.

The imam taught her at home but after the revolution his daughter, granddaughter and daughter-in-law went all the way to university, studying philosophy, petrochemical engineering, and philosophy respectively.

"In the old days the wives of the 'ulema did not have much university education but now because of the suitable climate... all the wives and daughters of the family are continuing their studies," she said.

Was the imam a good husband?

"Very good," she insists. "I'm very satisfied of him. He has always been respectful towards me. He never spoke with an angry tone."

The two lived alone but his grandchildren would join them for lunch and dinner because he "liked children very much."

Khamene'i's Speech to Law Enforcement Personnel
LD1806142389 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Jun 89

[Speech by Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic Republic, at a meeting with law enforcement personnel from the National Police Department, the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the Judicial Police Department, in Tehran on 18 June—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Dear brothers, our great imam created a new era. Today while our souls and hearts are full of sorrow for the absence of that dear and irreplaceable one of the Islamic ummah our greatest duty is to know the attributes of this era created by the imam who put the nation in this atmosphere and who declared it to the world, and to safeguard those attributes. It is true mourning if we carry out this task. This era started by our great imam has attributes. The major ones are the creation of a sense of honor, independence, satisfaction, and confidence in a nation that for many years was the target of attacks on its confidence and independence, with others controlling its destiny. This is one of the attributes of the era that the imam created in our time for us.

This is the same country from whose government the U.S. President cut off its multimillion-dollar aid because they wanted this person who is a U.S. lackey to be the head of government. This is the country where the United States, that international bully, considered the head as its servant and treated him like one. This is the same country for whose political and economic destiny the people's votes, faith, views, and desires had no effect. This is that country.

The powerful hand of the architect of the revolution and father of the Islamic Republic changed this country to a country, this nation to a nation that has shown the utmost and deepest contempt for the same bullying powers of the world for these 10 years. The whole world has confessed this. No nation has ever shown the same contempt for the oppressive bullying U.S. regime as our nation has. This is the same country, the same land, but it has done a 180-degree turn. This is one attribute. This should be maintained. This honor should be preserved. This is the imam's legacy. If we love the imam, if his vacant place is bitter for us, how can this be filled? His path should continue.

Another attribute is that the new era created by the imam is the era of a move toward and respect for humane values: respect for justice, human freedom, the principles of humanity, people's vote, respect for people. That great character whose greatness his enemies and the world are now confessing used to say: It is more palatable to me if I am called a servant than a leader. It is true, it is true he meant it, he did not pretend. He had so much respect for people that he considered himself their servant. We have nothing like this in the world, in history. There is much talk, many claims, claims of human rights. However, none of it is sincere or real.

Today the governments that claim to be the champions of human rights deliver the greatest insults to humanity. Those regimes whose inauspicious presence is the greatest source of oppression of the world claim to be champions of free speech and thought. Who supported the many stifling decades of the Pahlavi regime in Iran but the United States and the United Kingdom? They are the same ones who claim that they support human rights and free speech. Who supports the greatest oppression, the blackest of the regimes today in South Africa, in many other African and Asian countries, in the land occupied by the malicious Zionist occupiers? Who supports Israel when it comes and bombs southern Lebanon, destroys children's centers, massacres children, the most criminal action by a regime? If the United States did not support Israel, it would not be able to continue. It is really the United States that is bombing southern Lebanon. Last Friday [16 June] Israeli planes bombed on imaginary pretexts a number of villages and other meeting points of defenseless civilians. At the same time the United States, Britain, and governments like them claim to support human rights and respect human freedoms. It is clear that these are lies.

The criterion is true respect for human beings, which is impossible to realize fully anywhere except under Islam. Its greatest example was this great man whose powerful hand has made the whole world today take note of him and his nation, including you and me. This is one of the attributes of the new era that the imam created, respect for human rights, respect for the rights of the nation, their needs, respect for the pure aspirations of the oppressed and poor classes of the society, something he repeatedly stressed. You must follow this. [passage omitted]

Police, whether the national police or the Gendarmerie, must be the shelter of the people. Remember this, you must be the people's shelter. When they see the police in cities or the countryside people should feel calm and kindness. The condition of our law enforcement personnel now are very different from those in the past. Today these forces are with the people, on their side, supporting them. You must reinforce this within yourself with all your might. You are for the people. This is the philosophy of the existence of the law enforcement personnel. They are there to maintain order for public calm to ensure that people do not suffer.

Our dear clerical brothers could play an important role in the politico-ideological offices of the security forces. Thank God they are busy creating a spirit of piety and refraining from extremism in all matters in the security forces. [passage omitted]

All you dear brothers should bear in mind that the security forces, who are in constant contact with the public, could be symbols of the system's compassion and kindness and of its prudence and good management. You should consider these two factors together, [passage omitted]

Fortunately over the past few years the police, gEndarmerie, and judicial police have given good service in different ways, partly in the war and partly behind the lines. God willing, they will succeed. However, you should be aware that in the void resulting from the absence of our great leader you and I should try even harder. Now that a great influence has been removed from among us, what should we do to fill the void to some extent? We must exert more energy and try harder. You must always bear that in mind.

All the country's organizations and all the people must be aware that the Islamic Republic and the Iranian nation are capable of overcomign all enmity in the world thanks to the valuable and divine legacies of the imam. [crowd chants]

Thank God we are not worried about the future. We clearly see the road ahead and the goals. We believe that we must do our utmost to that end and thank Almighty God. May God bring you success, assist you, and grant us all success. Peace and God's mercy be upon you.

Tehran Clerics Pledge Allegiance to Khamene'i
NC2206080189 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] Members of the Tehran Militant Clergy Association met His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran last night. According to the Central News Unit, during this meeting, Secretary General Ayatollah Mahdavi-Kani declared the Tehran Militant Clergy Association's support and allegiance to the guidance of the eminent leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Mr Khamene'i referred to the conspicuous and unique role of the dedicated clergy in the evolution, consolidation, and progress of the Islamic revolution and added: Undoubtedly our nation and supporters of the Islamic revolution will never forget the constructive and fateful role of the clergy in Tehran and other parts of Iran in the compilation and implementation of the bases of the revolution and the mobilization of the popular forces.

Lebanese Islamic Leader Supports Khamene'i
LD2106180889 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1700 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban, the leader of the Islamic Unification Movement of Lebanon, who arrived in Tehran last night in order to express condolences for the heart-rending demise of the great leader of the Islamic revolution, Imam Khomeyni, sanctified be his noble soul, and to express allegiance to the leadership of His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, in an interview with IRNA correspondent said: The passing of Imam Khomeyni will not cause us to give up his holiness's divine path, as a result of which Islamic Iran was freed from U.S. domination.

Ansari Appointed To Publish Khomeyni's Works
LD2106111689 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Haj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni has appointed Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad 'Ali Ansari as supervisor and official in charge of the institute for the codifiction and publication of the works of Imam Khomeyni, may his soul be sanctified, and [the construction of] sacred shrine. The text of the decree is as follows:

In His exalted name. Your Excellency Hojat ol-Eslam Hajj Sheykh Mohammad 'Ali Ansari, may your blessings continue. In view of your past record and your services in the holy presence of the great leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic, His Holiness Grand Ayatollah Imam Khomeyni, peace be upon him, your excellency is appointed as the supervisor and the official in charge of the institute for the codification and publication of the works of Imam Khomeyni, may his soul be sanctified, and [the construction of] his sacred shrine. In collaboration with and making use of all the experienced executive, intellecutual, cultural, and popular forces, you will prepare for the publication of the blissful works of imam, as well as the design and construction of his noble shrine. In collaboration with and making use of all the experienced executive, intellectual, cultural, and popular forces, you will prepare for the publication of the blissful works of the imam, as well as the design and construction of his noble shrine. God willing, all the faithful and sincere revolutionary organizations and forces will collaborate with you in all the programs, and will partake in the great blessings of glorifying Islamic precepts and the implementation of the sacred aspirations of the imam. May God bestow upon you and others the opportunity to follow the sacred path and to achieve the great goals of the Islamic Revolution. God's peace and blessings be upon you.
[Signed] Ahmad Khomeyni
[Dated] 31.3.68 [21 June 1989]

Atomic Energy Delegation Arrives in Tehran
NC2106061889 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] The head of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] arrived in Tehran this morning at the head of a high-ranking delegation consisting of officials of this agency and was welcomed by officials of the Iranian Atomic Energy Organization [IAEO] and the ambassadors of Argentina and Sweden.

The Central News Unit reports that after his arrival in Tehran, Mr Hans Blix spoke to our correspondent and expressed his pleasure in visiting Iran. He also expressed hope that he will be able to take effective steps toward the objectives of the two organizations. He said that cooperation between the IAEA and the IAEO in past years has led to the implementation of various projects. He added that one of the major objectives of the IAEA is to extend scientific-technical assistance to member countries as far as possible. In conclusion, he expressed hope that during his meetings with the officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran, favorable grounds for joint cooperation will be created.

Nepal

King Birendra Comments on Trade, Transit Dispute

BK2106114489 Hong Kong AFP in English 1125 GMT 1 Jun 89

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Kathmandu, June 21 (AFP)—King Birendra of Nepal Wednesday [21 June praised the patience of the Nepalese people in the face of hardship arising from the termination of the Nepal-India treaties on trade and transit.

Addressing the 40th session of the National Panchayat—the nation's highest legislative body—the Harvard and Tokyo educated monarch commented for the first time since March 23 on the plight of landlocked Nepal since the treaties were ended.

King Birendra said, "Today we are moving on a firm course to fulfil the basic needs of the common people within a specified period of time through an equitable distribution and planned process of social and economic development.

He added: "In this context, all countrymen are aware that the recent difficult situation which has befallen Nepal, a landlocked and peaceful nation, following the termination of the Nepal-India treaties on trade and transit, as a result of the unilateral decision of the Government of India, represents not only a stumbling block on Nepalese economic activities but a challenge disrupting the way of life of the people.

"We cannot but express our appreciation for the singular sense of patience displayed by the Nepalese people to face the consequent hardships".

He called for sobriety and watchfulness on the part of all in the cause of nation's honour and self reliance, adding "by staying the course unitedly and with vigilance today in tune with the national aspirations and highest national interest instead of getting involved in narrow self-interest and petty outlook and thought, we shall have borne our historical responsibility to our future and to the generations to come."

The king said that the government had already announced economic strategies for progress which would mitigate the adverse impact of the treaties' termination on the Nepalese economy.

The king outlined in his 3,000 word speech relayed through state-run Nepal television and Nepal radio the government's socio-economic and political programmes, foreign policy, defence, and health programmes for the 1989/90 fiscal year starting from 16th July.

The king also referred to the need to maintain buffer stocks of consumer goods, construction materials, and fuel in order to check an artificial price rise in essential commodities.

On strengthening of the security system and effective measures to control drug abuse and trafficking, he said, the "policy of keeping the Royal Nepalese Army more skilled and efficient through modernization in tune with time would be continued."

He also said the army would continue to participate in United Nations peace-keeping assignment.

On foreign policy he said Nepal would strengthen bilateral relationship with all countries on the basis of peace, friendship and mutual cooperation.

The king said he believed that the forthcoming fifth summit of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) to be held this winter in Colombo would be another important landmark.

The king also hailed the relaxation of tension between the two super powers, the United States and the Soviet Union.

In an oblique reference to Sri Lanka's request that India peace-keeping troops be withdrawn from the island by July 29, he said he hoped all South Asian disputes would be resolved on the basis of "sovereignty and goodwill".

Without direct reference to the current Indo-Nepalese dispute arising out of the non-renewal of the treaties King Birendra said, "with faith in the proposition that friendly dialogue is the best means to solve problems the Nepalese Government has always been willing for the talks."

On human rights he said: "The Constitution of Nepal has fully guaranteed the fundamental rights of its citizens including their personal liberty in conformity with international norms of human rights and it has also provided for an independent judiciary to safeguard the spirit of democracy.

Observers said that the king's reference to human rights was in answer to recent criticism from the Indian media and Amnesty International on Nepal's human rights record.

Nepali Congress Blames System for India Impasse

BK2206072289 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0630 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] The Central Committee of the banned Nepali Congress has blamed what it called the reactionary partyless system in Nepal for the impasse resulting from the expiry of the trade and transit treaties between India and Nepal. According to agency reports from Kathmandu, the committee adopted a political resolution after its 3-day deliberations, saying that the country was passing through an unprecedented crisis, including the scarcity of essential commodities.

The Congress has appealed to Nepal and India to start early negotiations for a fresh treaty.

Pakistan

Soviet POW Group Meets With Mujahidin Leader

BK2106154489 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] The delegation of the Soviet people's committee on the release of Soviet prisoners of war [POW's] met with Professor Sebghatullah Mojaddedi, president of the interim government of Afghanistan, in Peshawar today. Later, talking to newsmen, Professor Mojaddedi said that we sincerely desire that the POW's should be swapped immediately after the fighting ends. But this means that all POW's should be swapped. Professor Sebghatullah Mojaddedi said that 30-40,000 Afghan mujahidin are either being held captive in Afghanistan or have been transferred to the Siberian region in the Soviet Union. He said that we are ready to swap POW's at any time. He said 20,000 Afghan children have also been sent to the Soviet Union and they should be sent home.

Prime Minister's Comments on Khomeyni Cited

LD1906125789 Tehran IRNA in English 1230 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Text] Islamabad, June 19, IRNA—Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto said Sunday that the late Imam Khomeyni's provident and illuminative messages would be a guide for Muslim nations in future.

Speaking in a meeting with the outgoing Iranian ambassador here Mahmud Musavi, Bhutto said the Iranian nation lost a great blessing with the demise of Imam Khomeyni. She expressed hope that Tehran-Islamabad ties would further expand through exchange of ranking delegations.

Musavi hoped that friendly and brotherly ties between the two countries would improve through common efforts of Iranian and Pakistani nations.

Concern Expressed Over Plight of Bulgarian Muslims

BK2206023889 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] A Foreign Office spokesman in Islamabad has expressed regret over the harsh treatment meted out to the Turkish Muslim minority community in Bulgaria. He expressed concern at the violation of fundamental rights of these Turkish Muslims.

Sri Lanka

Strike 'Almost' Paralyzes Public Transport

BK2206112389 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] There is no improvement so far in the SLCTB [Sri Lanka Central Transport Board] strike, which has almost paralyzed public road transport in the country. Almost all the private buses kept off the roads as of yesterday.

The railway control room says the train services are not functioning at normal level. Attendance at government and mercantile establishments continued to be badly affected due to the SLCTB strike.

The government has decided that all employees of the SLCTB and of the regional transport board should report for work at their respective places of work on or before Monday, the 26th. Those who do not report for work before the deadline, will be deemed to have vacated their posts. All depot managers and other staff should be available at their respective depots to provide work to those who report. All chairmen of regional transport boards are required to ensure that these arrangements at their depots are effective.

Adequate security will be provided at work places for those who report for work.

Speaker Offers To Meet With JVP for Talks

BK2106121889 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] The speaker of parliament, Mr M.H. Mohamed, in an earnest appeal to the JVP [Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna—People's Liberation Front] has said that he is prepared to meet their representatives unconditionally to discuss the crisis. The speaker has stated that our country and our people faced today the greatest crisis since independence. Internal strife has brought the country to the brink of disaster.

Mr Mohamed has said that he has made this appeal as speaker and spokesman of parliament and no allegiance to parliament and to the people. [sentence as heard] The speaker has further said that it is from this position that he is addressing a message to the JVP and he is prepared to meet them at a place of their choice. And thereafter, if necessary, to arrange them to meet all the political parties of parliament for further discussions.

Mr Mohamed has further said that he has informed all the party leaders in parliament about this appeal that he is making to the JVP.

Militants Invited to Talks

BK2106073089 Hong Kong AFP in English 0559 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Excerpts] Colombo, June 21 (AFP)—The Sri Lankan Parliament Wednesday invited anti-government Sinhalese militants for peace talks as the house began a debate on the state of emergency declared by President Ranasinghe Premadasa.

Speaker M. H. Mohamed told parliament that he was inviting representatives of the Janatha Vimukti Peramuna (JVP, or People's Liberation Front) to have unconditional talks with himself and MP's [member of parliament].

"Our country and our people face today the gravest crisis since independence (from Britain in 1948). Internal strife has brought us to the brink of disaster," Mr. Mohamed said.

He said he was prepared to meet JVP activists at any location and had the permission of MP's to announce that all political parties represented in parliament were also willing to talk to the rebels to discuss the latest crisis.

Prime Minister D. B. Wijetunge, seeking parliamentary approval for the emergency promulgated by Mr. Premadasa Tuesday, said it was necessary to bring in tough laws in the wake of strikes planned by anti-government militants.

"They are making every effort to disrupt government activity and cripple the economy. Many workers both in the government and private sector have been forced to resort to strike action without any reason," Mr. Wijetunge said.

He said more than 1,700 people, including 120 officials, 90 policemen and 50 soldiers, had died in political violence since the earlier emergency was lifted on January 12. [passage omitted]

A vote on the motion to implement the state of emergency was expected to be taken later Wednesday. Mr. Premadasa's United National Party has a majority in the 225-member assembly.

The tougher measures were announced after a JVP-sponsored bus strike dragged into its 9th day and workers from other sectors threatened to join in demanding higher wages.

Parliament Debates State of Emergency 21 Jun

BK2106115289 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] Today, parliament debated the proclamation of emergency by the government. Making the move, Prime Minister D.B. Wijetunge reminded the parliament that the emergency, which was imposed in January 1983, was lifted by the president on the (?11th) of January this year.

The prime minister said the president firmly believed that problems should be solved through negotiations and not through violence. Already over 1,800 people, who were detained in Army camps, were released without any condition. But, the prime minister said a decrease in political violence is not seen yet. It has been found that the antisocial elements were active in various parts of the country. They were making every attempt to sabotage government work and retard economic activities. Many in the government and the private sectors had been engaged in sabotaging transport activities without any legal reasons for strike action.

The prime minister said that due to this the people had to face immense difficulties. On many occasions the president had appealed to those engaged in violence to discuss with him their problems so that they could enter the democratic framework. However, certain sections had not so far responded to these appeals and were still engaged in violence. Therefore, the prime minister said that a state of emergency had to be declared for the maintenance of normal activity.

Opening the debate on behalf of the opposition, Amarasiri Dodangoda of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party [SLFP] pointed out that there will be no change when the state of emergency has not been imposed. [sentence as heard] He further said that although priority had to be given to solve the unemployment problem, malnutrition, and eliminate poverty, the government had been concentrating on other objectives.

The minister of labor and social welfare, Dr Ranjith Atapattu, noted that a majority of the people today needed a peaceful environment. However, they were now facing difficulties. The minister emphasized the need to find peaceful solutions to the current problems for the welfare of the country.

[Name indistinct] of the SLFP noted that unrest in the country has further escalated after the presidential elections. The situation further deteriorated after the general election. The member of parliament said that the United National Party's economic policy was one of the reasons for this situation.

Tamil Group on 'Conspiracy'

BK2206103089 Hong Kong AFP in English 1008 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] New Delhi, June 22 (AFP)—A leading Sri Lankan Tamil political party Thursday accused the Sri Lankan Government of imposing a state of emergency with the intention of dissolving a provincial ministry under its control and arresting its pro-India leaders.

The Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF) also accused Colombo of plotting to foment ethnic violence and then throwing the blame on Indian peacekeeping troops in the island, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported.

The left-wing group said in a statement issued in the southern Indian city of Madras that several guerrillas of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) were now in Sri Lankan Army camps getting weapons to kill rival Tamils.

The EPRLF, which controls the administration in Sri Lanka's Tamil-majority north-east where India has about 45,000 troops, said it was making the charges on the basis of information from Sri Lankan Cabinet and Army sources.

The statement came two days after Sri Lankan President Ranasinghe Premadasa, facing unprecedented domestic and foreign policy crises, imposed a state of emergency in his island republic.

The EPRLF, which opposes Mr Premadasa's appeals to withdraw the Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF) from Sri Lanka by July 29th, said the emergency was imposed as a result of a "conspiracy" between the island government and the LTTE, which has been holding peace talks with Colombo since April.

The "conspiracy" aimed at dissolving the EPRLF-controlled North-eastern Provincial government and arresting its chief minister and other ministers, PTI quoted the statement as saying.

The EPRLF is a rebel group-turned-political party which surrendered arms under a 1987 Indo-Sri Lanka peace accord which sought to end Tamil separatism and give limited autonomy to the island's minority Tamil community.

The accord has been rejected by the LTTE, the most powerful Tamil militant group against which the IPKF launched disarming operations in October 1987. Some 900 Indian soldiers and 2,500 suspected rebels have died in the IPKF-LTTE fighting so far.

The EPRLF was reported as saying that "Sinhalese hooligans" backed by security forces were threatening Tamils in Sri Lanka's tea-rich central region. The Sinhalese are the island's majority community.

Earlier, another left-wing Tamil group said the continued killing of its members was forcing it to review its acceptance of the 1987 accord.

The Eelam Revolutionary Organisation of Students (EROS) said 54 of its cadres had been killed by rival groups and Indian and Sri Lankan troops since the agreement was signed.

"We have been pushed into a situation of reviewing our standpoint (about the accord) because of this chain of events," it said in a statement issued in India's southern Madras city and published in newspapers Thursday.

THE HINDU newspaper quoted the statement as saying that "laying down of arms as per the clauses of the Indo-Sri Lanka agreement and abiding by it in future will not be a correct procedure in the light of its past experience."

EROS, which also surrendered arms under the peace pact, has 13 members in the Sri Lankan Parliament. The EPRLF has seven.

EROS, which did not say what its immediate action would be, also said that a review of the 1987 agreement was needed because India and Sri Lanka had differences over it.

India has rejected Mr Premadasa's appeal to withdraw its troops by July-end, saying it can be done only after Colombo devolves adequate autonomy to the island's Tamil community and ensures its security.

The EROS statement came 6 days after six of its activists, including a member of its decisionmaking General Council, were found murdered with torture marks near an Indian Army camp in Sri Lanka's northern Vavuniya District.

Prime Minister Assesses Agreement With India

BK2006113689 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 20 Jun 89

[Text] When parliament met this morning, the prime minister and finance minister, D.B. Wijetunge, replying to questions raised by (Jairaja Fernando Pole) of the SLFP [Sri Lanka Freedom Party] said that according to the terms of the Indo-Sri Lanka agreement, the battle ceased within 48 hours and all arms and ammunition were to be handed over within 75 hours. Sri Lanka stopped their fighting, but Mr Wijetunge said it was a temporary cease-fire.

The prime minister said that by September 1987, the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] openly launched a battle against the Indian Peacekeeping Force [IPKF]. Even after 2 years, the IPKF could not disarm the LTTE.

The militant groups handed over only a few (?arms), about 20 percent of what they possessed. The Sri Lankan security forces were completely removed from the north and the east as the Indian Government undertook the entire responsibility for the protection of all sections of the community in those areas.

The IPKF has obtained the services of a small group of the Sri Lanka Police Force.

The IPKF has not been successful in insuring the security of the Sinhalese and Muslim population in the east. Over 30,000 Sri Lankans who went to Tamil Nadu have now returned. But there are about 84,000 Indian passport holders who have to be sent back to India.

Minister Criticizes Position Against India

BK2206033989 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] A spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry has confirmed the press reports that the prime minister had sent a letter to the Sri Lankan president. Replying to further questions regarding the contents of the letter, the spokesman said India had made its position clear over the last several weeks in several statements made, the most recent being the statement of 12th of this month. It may be recalled the 12 June statement had reiterated India's stand on the withdrawal of Peacekeeping Force [PKF] and connected issues regarding the implementation of Indo-Sri Lanka agreement.

Meanwhile, according to reports emanating from Colombo, Mr Gamini Dissanayake—a senior cabinet minister and one of the architects of the Indo-Sri Lanka agreement—has spoken of the principles behind the Indo-Sri Lanka agreement and the role the PKF has played in the north and east during the difficult period in Sri Lanka and in the devolution of powers to Northeastern Council.

Speaking in Sri Lankan Parliament yesterday, Mr Dissanayake, who is the minister for plantation in President Premadasa's cabinet, has criticized the fashionable trend of India-beating by those who had no commitment to political principles. He cited the observations and assessment of Mr A. Amirthalingam—the Tamil United Liberation Front leader—who had warned that the consequences of the PKF withdrawing at this juncture and the Sri Lankan Armed Forces moving out in the north and east would be disastrous.

Mr Dissanayake asserted that as pledged in the manifesto, the ruling United National Party was determined to stand by the accord and go ahead with the devolution of powers.

About the current round of talks between the Sri Lankan Government and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, he said he preferred to take the principled stand of the former president, Mr Jayewardene, who always refused to hold talks with terrorists either in the north or in the south.

On the withdrawal of the Indian Peacekeeping Force, Mr Dissanayake said it has to be undertaken in a manner proper and acceptable.

Political observers in Colombo attach special significance to Mr Dissanayake's statement at this juncture.

25 LTTE Men Killed in 2 Major Encounters

BK2106092089 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] In Sri Lanka, 25 LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] men were killed in Vavuniya in two major encounters in the early hours of today. At (Konikulam), about 15 LTTE men launched an offensive against the PKF [Peacekeeping Force] this morning which was retaliated. In the process, nine LTTE men were killed. In another encounter at (Subsikulam), 16 LTTE men were killed and a large quantity of arms and ammunition recovered.